#771/772 • June 25/July 2, 2004

Entertainment WEEKLY

137 People & Things We Love This Summer

THE MUST LIST

5 Things You Need To Know About The New BATMAN

STARRING
Christian Bale As the Caped Crusader

PLUS
Julia Roberts
Spider-Man's Evil Enemy
Lindsay Lohan
Star Wars
Julianne Moore
Tyra Banks
Lord of the Rings
Will Ferrell

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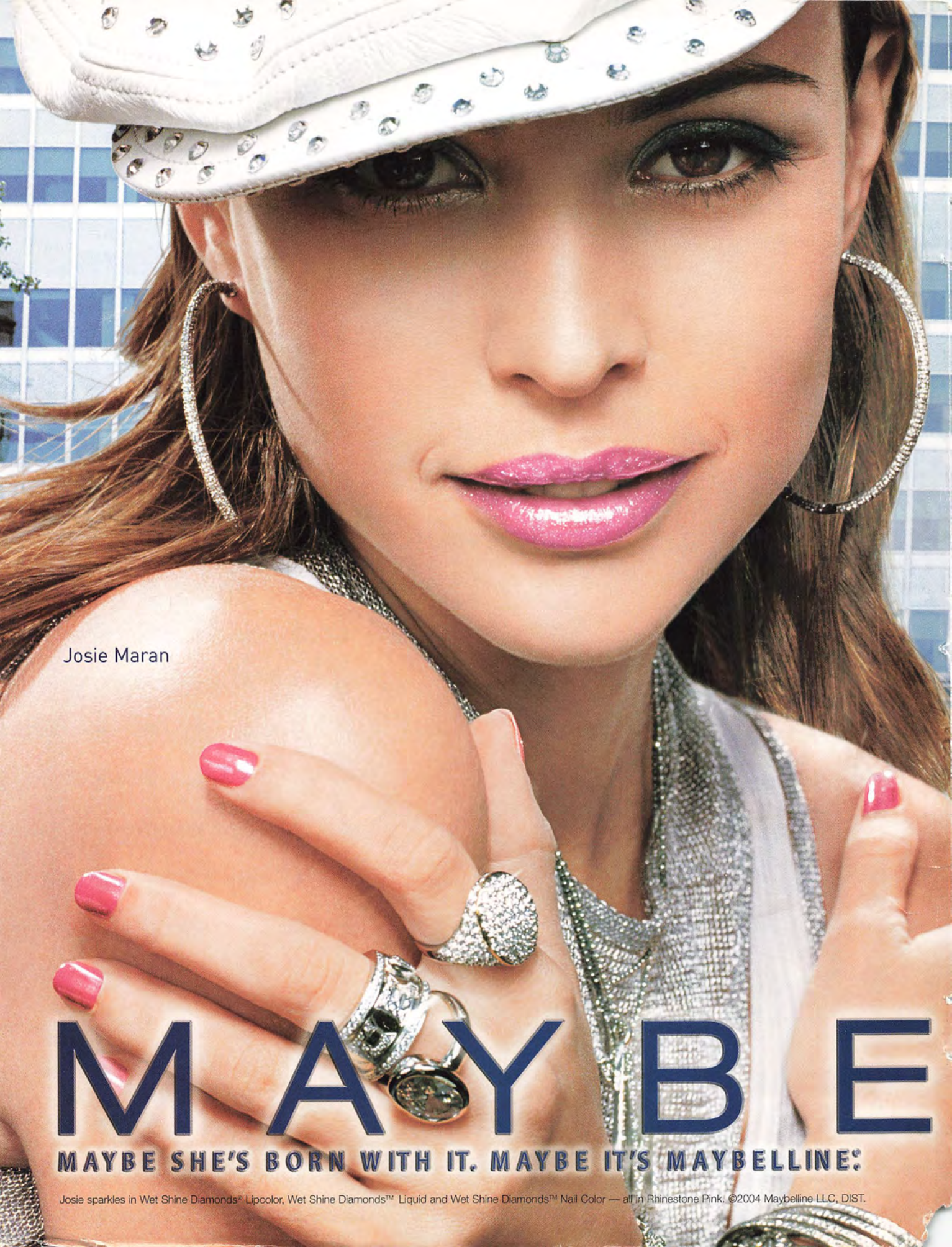
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It has occurred to us that before you say *cześć*—or, if you prefer English to Polish greetings, *hello*—to Belvedere Pomarańcza, it might come in handy to learn how to pronounce the admittedly odd-looking word first.

Poe-ma-rahn-cha.

Now that we have that little exercise in Polish phonetics out of the way, we can tell you what Pomarańcza is: It is the first flavored vodka worthy of the Belvedere name.

Pomarańcza's luxurious taste starts with natural ingredients and natural ingredients only, including 100% Dańkowskie Gold Rye and the Mediterranean's finest sun-drenched fruit.

Then, under the watchful eye and discerning palate of renowned flavor artist Elie-Arnaud Denoix, the peels of the aforementioned Mediterranean fruit are combined with the spirit in a proprietary maceration process.

If you don't so happen to be versed in the whys, whats and wherefores of the maceration process, it fuses the spirit with

HELLO. MY NAME IS POMARAŃCZA.

the fruit's essential oils, creating a more natural flavor—a critical step towards Pomarańcza's sumptuous taste. The maceration is then slowly and lovingly distilled in Alambic pot stills over very low heat—another critical step towards Pomarańcza's sumptuous taste.

Rather than waxing poetic about our maceration process, we'll give you a simple visual demonstration: A flavored vodka using only the finest natural ingredients imbued in a time-consuming maceration process will cloud over when chilled or savored over ice.

Yes, Pomarańcza clouds over.

The result of all this fussiness is a wondrous and subtle combination of orange blossom, sweet orange, mandarin and lime very deserving of being enjoyed neat and of the beautiful Polish toast that graces every bottle of Belvedere.

Na zdrowie!

Or, for the Polish-challenged reader, *na-zdro-vee-ah!*

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It has occurred to us that before you say *cześć* — or, if you prefer English to Polish greetings, *hello* — to Belvedere Cytrus, it might come in handy to learn how to pronounce the admittedly odd-looking word first.

Sit-troos.

Now that we have that little exercise in Polish phonetics out of the way, we can tell you what Cytrus is: It is the first flavored vodka worthy of the Belvedere name.

Cytrus's luxurious taste starts with natural ingredients and natural ingredients only, including 100% Dańkowskie Gold Rye and the Mediterranean's finest sun-drenched fruit.

Then, under the watchful eye and discerning palate of renowned flavor artist Elie-Arnaud Denoix, the peels of the aforementioned Mediterranean fruit are combined with the spirit in a proprietary maceration process.

If you don't so happen to be versed in the whys, whats and wherefores of the maceration process, it fuses the spirit with

HELLO. MY NAME IS CYTRUS.

the fruit's essential oils, creating a more natural flavor — a critical step towards Cytrus's sumptuous taste. The maceration is then slowly and lovingly distilled in Alambic pot stills over very low heat — another critical step towards Cytrus's sumptuous taste.

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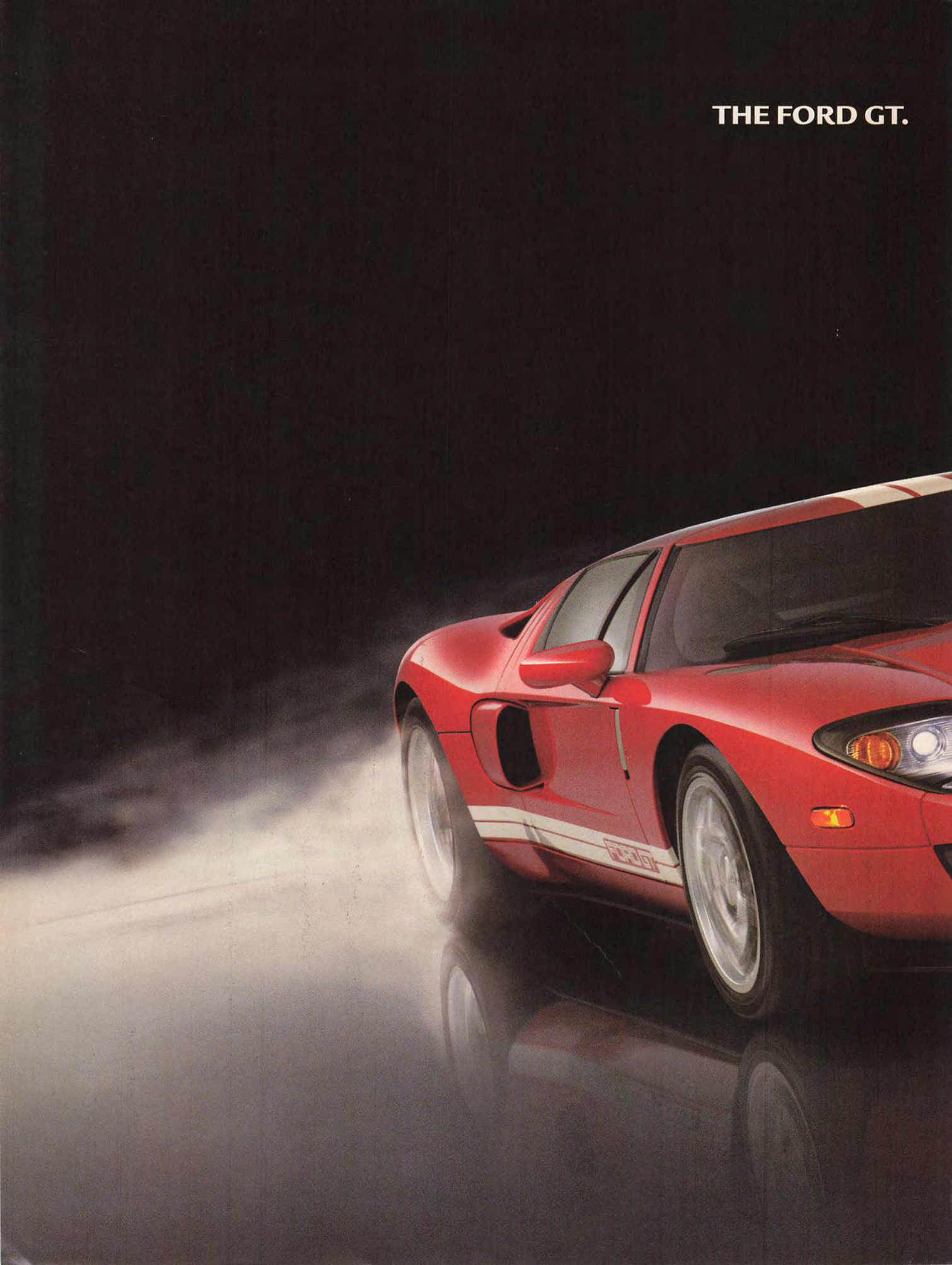
Yes, Cytrus clouds over.

The result of all this fussiness is a wondrous and subtle combination of lemon and lime very deserving of being enjoyed neat and of the beautiful Polish toast that graces every bottle of Belvedere.

Na zdrowie!

Or, for the Polish-challenged reader, *na-zdro-vee-ah!*

THE FORD GT.



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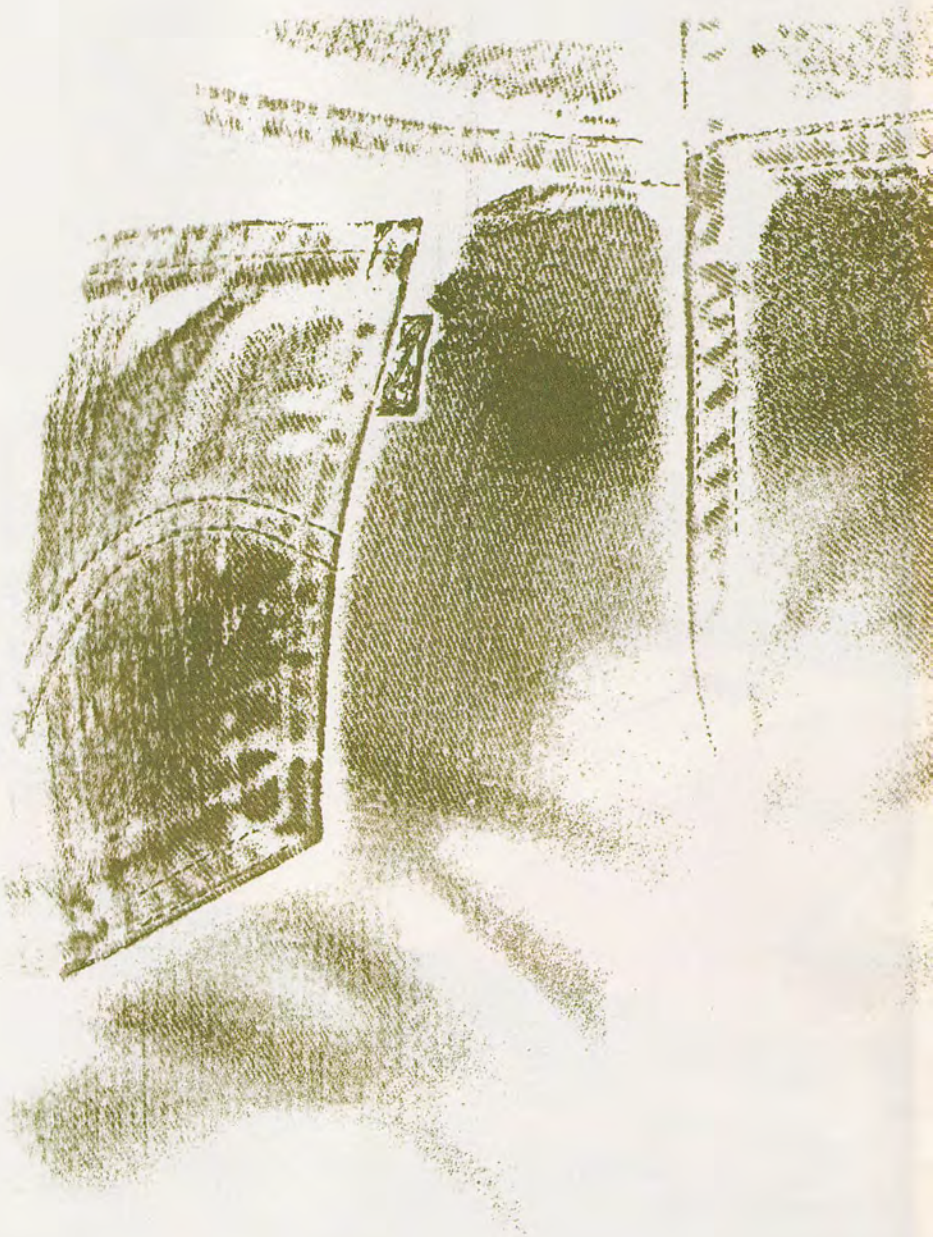

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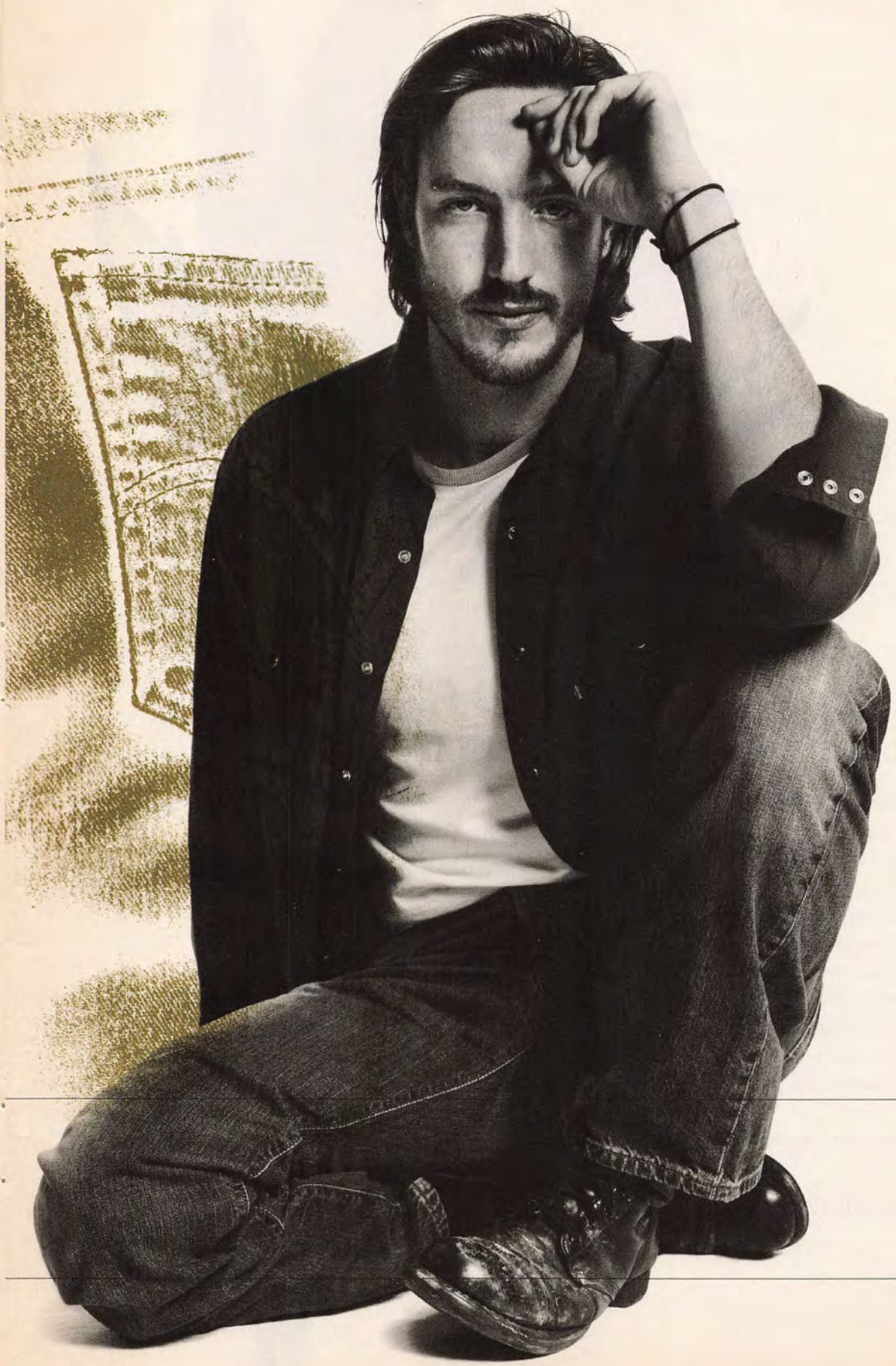

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Entertainment WEEKLY

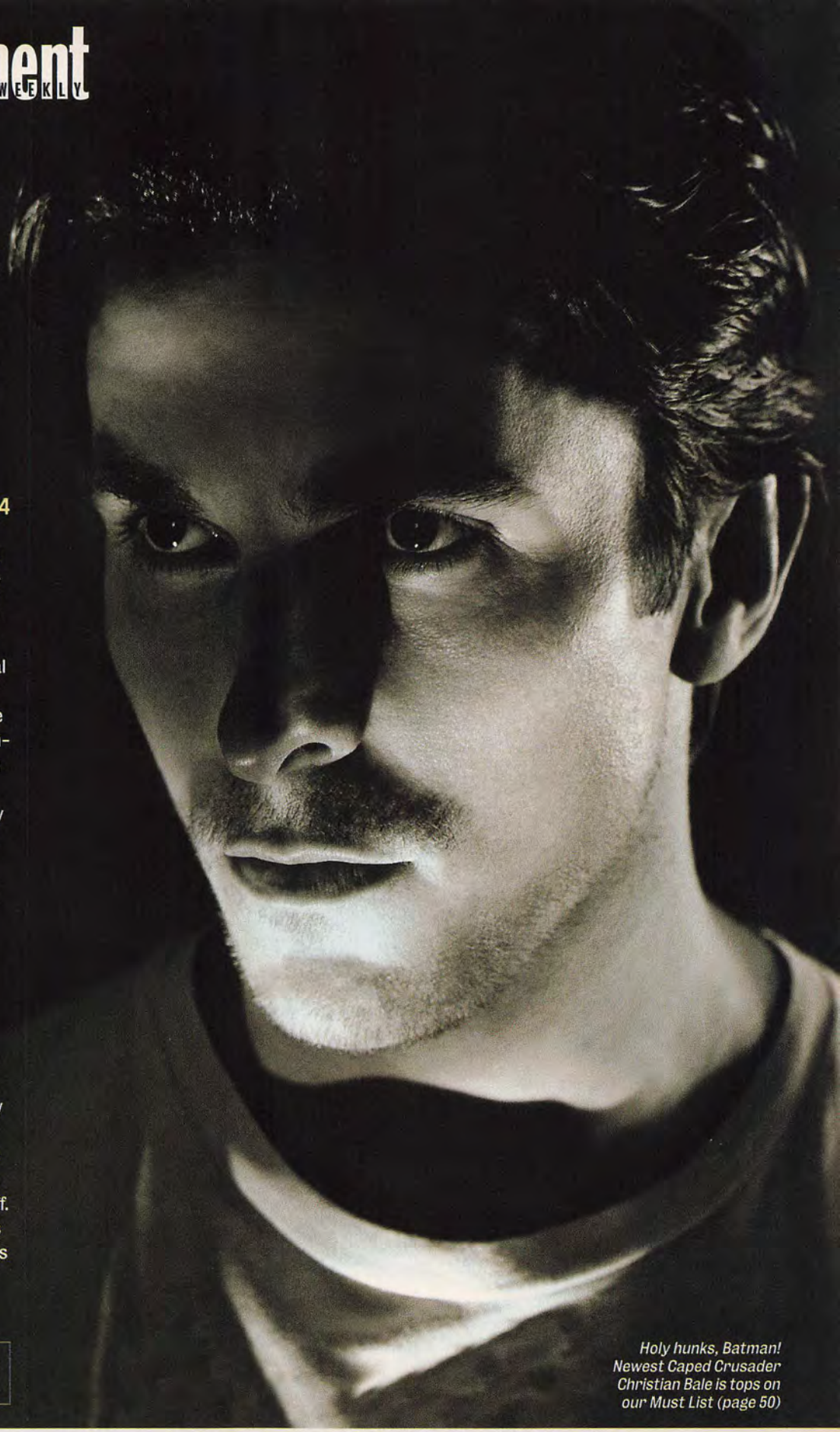
News + Notes

21 | Extreme Makeovers
Hollywood nips and tucks its classics...The best and worst movie remakes ever...Hot Sheet... Death-metal band Decapitated scraps U.S. tour...The Shaw Report...First Look: Jessica Alba dives *Into the Blue*...Who says blondes have more fun? Celebrity sisters go dark...Monitor.

Features

42 | Ray Charles, 1930–2004
With his raw yet sophisticated sound, he created what became known as soul music. And nobody did it better. BY TOM SINCLAIR

48 | The Must List *It* was all well and good, but now our annual list of all things crazy, sexy, and cool has a new name. To make the cut, you Must be passionate, compelling, inspired. Some highlights:
1–24 Christian Bale smolders, Julia Roberts gets *Closer*, Lindsay Lohan is queen of the teens; also tentacled Spider-Man nemesis Alfred Molina, Heather Locklear, and Chad Michael Murray.
25–45 Reese Witherspoon gives us a read on *Vanity Fair*, we say "Yeah!" for Usher, James Spader gives *The Practice* a stay of execution.
46–73 Stylish Musts include Scarlett Johansson, *The L Word*, Chloé leather cuffs, and the Sony PlayStation Portable.
74–100 Will Ferrell shows us the funny; also be afraid for Julianne Moore, Tyra Banks struts her stuff.
101–137 *American Chopper* revs up, the Cure on tour, and The WB's newest heartthrob, Matt Long.



ON THE COVER Christian Bale photographed for EW by James White in London on June 3, 2004

Holy hunks, Batman! Newest Caped Crusader Christian Bale is tops on our Must List (page 50)

(COVER AND THIS PAGE) STYLING: MARK ANTHONY/ESP AGENCY; HAIR: TRACEY WELLS; MAKEUP: PETER ROBB-KING; SET DESIGN: ROBIN RAWTHORNE; T-SHIRT: CALVIN KLEIN

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Entertainment WEEKLY

Reviews

136 | **Movies** *The Terminal*; also *The Notebook*, *Two Brothers*, *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*, *Seducing Doctor Lewis*, and *Father and Son*. Plus: Ask the Critic.

143 | **DVD & Video** *Cold Mountain*; also *Blazing Saddles*, *South Park*, *Dawson's Creek*. Plus: Spider-Man and Q&A with *Bad Santa*'s Billy Bob Thornton.

149 | **Television** *Nip/Tuck* and *Reno 911!* Plus: Ask the Critic; *Alias*' Merrin Dungey joins the cast of *Summerland*; What to Watch.

161 | **Music** Wilco's haunting *ghost*; also Maria Mena and JoJo, Marc Anthony. Plus: Los Lonely Boys; Spotlight on Rachael Yamagata; Download This.

169 | **Books** Louise Erdrich's *Four Souls*; also Janet Evanovich's *Ten Big Ones*. Plus: Book critics face off; Stephen King's new book.

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18 | **Mail** Jake Gyllenhaal and *The Day After Tomorrow*.

174 | **Stupid Questions** This week with...Andy Richter.

Mean Girls' *Lindsay Lohan stands tall on the 2004 Must List (page 66)*

STYLING: FRANKIE HART; HAIR: PETER BUTLER FOR ARTISTSBYTIMOTHYPRIANO.COM; MAKEUP: KRISTOPER BUCKLE FOR ARTISTSBYTIMOTHYPRIANO.COM; SWEATER: C. RONSON; SHORTS: MAGDA BERLINA

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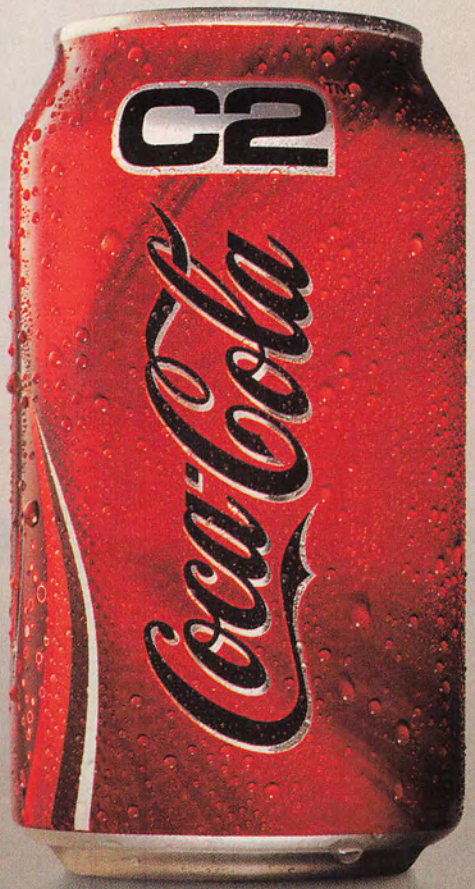
ALL THE ACTION



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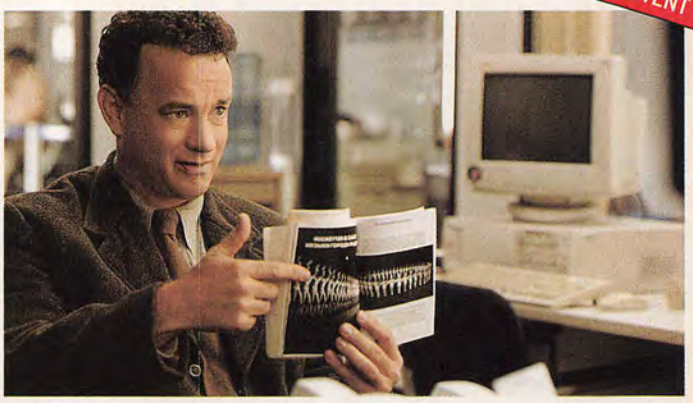

TOUGH TALK

"It's just pretty much bone-cracking work," Tom Hanks told EW about doing accents for movies—and he should know. He's tackled a few monsters in his career, including New England (*Catch Me if You Can*), the Deep South (*Forrest Gump*), and in his latest, Eastern European (*The Terminal*). Listen to audio clips of his many accents and rate them at *ew.com/hanks*.

'SIMPLE LIFE' WATCH

Love seeing Paris and Nicole get used to the cramped quarters of that Airstream trailer? Read our online-only reaction to the latest *Life*, and post your thoughts on the reality stars' road trip at *ew.com/simplelife*.

TALK ABOUT IT!

YOUR MUST LIST?

You've seen who we named as entertainment's coolest in 2004—now tell us about your top summer picks (*Spider-Man 2*, anyone?) at *ew.com/personalmusts*.

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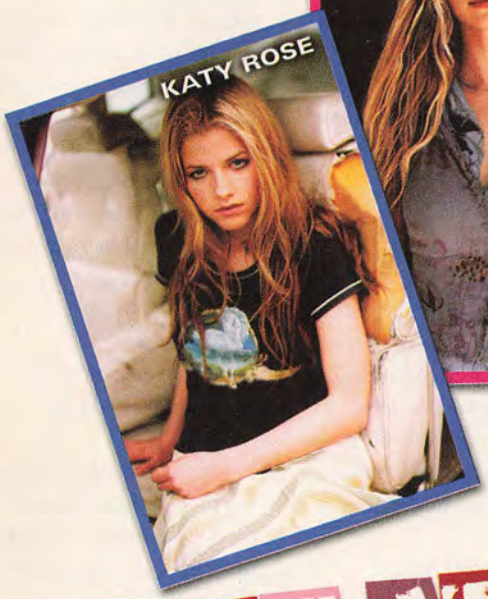

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Jake Gyllenhaal Takes On Floods, The Ice Age, And A Tidal Wave Of Controversy In
THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
PLUS
The Top 10
Disaster Movie Moments Of All Time!
Exclusive Photos Of Madonna's New Tour
Harry Potter vs. Sarah: Who's Got The Power?

"You need to prepare a girl for your Jake Gyllenhaal cover. Who needs global warming? That will melt anything."

DAWNA LEETH
Clearwater, Fla.

'Darko' Angel

JUST A QUICK MESSAGE TO SAY how happy I am that you featured Jake Gyllenhaal on your cover. It's about time this guy got some good publicity to prove to people just how talented an actor he is! It's just unfortunate how long it has taken for his big breakthrough. *Donnie Darko* was amazing, and let's not forget *Moonlight Mile*. Well done!

STEFANIE INGRAM
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Redditch, U.K.

JUST ONE WORD ABOUT THE cover of your June 4 issue: Yum.

JUDITH PERRY
dulligirl66@hotmail.com
Charlotte, N.C.

WOW! THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO say about the June 4 cover. I almost fell off my chair when I was looking through the mail. This is your absolute best picture of any actor or person, and you have had some great people on your covers. But nothing beats Jake Gyllenhaal soaking wet in not one but two photographs. He's such a great actor and is now coming into the spotlight after the cult hits *Donnie Darko* and *Bubble Boy*.

RACHEL STRASSBERGER
rake713@hotmail.com
Tulsa

Recipe for Disaster

I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED THE photo gallery of Dennis Quaid on your website, and, as mentioned in the issue featuring *The Day After Tomorrow*, I echo Roland Emmerich's sentiments in his rediscovering of Quaid ("Flirting With Disaster"). I wish you would have given him the same honor in your magazine as on your website. Instead I had to look at the "let's make all the teens squeal" photos of an up-and-coming actor who pales in comparison to the talent and sex appeal of his veteran costar.

CANDACE POLLOCK
vwmantid@hotmail.com
Columbus, Ohio

LOOKING OVER YOUR LIST OF the 10 best disaster movie moments of all time, I couldn't help but notice a glaring omission. A film that can be regarded as the granddaddy of all disaster films, a film about the worst possible disaster: the end of the earth. And what am I talking about? *When Worlds Collide*, a classic sci-fi film of the 1950s. How could you have missed it?

JAMES BOCCHINO
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Bloomfield, N.J.

Viewer's Discretion

ANGEL, MISS MATCH, WONDERfalls, The District, The Guardian, Jake 2.0, and *Karen Sisco*—all gone, so I am gone too. What the six network honchos do not realize is that once you lose viewers, they rarely come back ("You Win Some, You Lose Some"). The viewers who leave will find other things to do, because network TV has deserted them. I'm proud to say that I've never watched a reality show, including *American Idol* and *The Apprentice*. And I never will!

PAM CONATY
psoaplover@earthlink.net
Huntington, W. Va.

The Madgician

JUST WHEN I THOUGHT MADONna couldn't be more vapid and insignificant, she embarks on her Re-Invention Tour and proves me wrong ("Mother of Reinvention"). You gotta hand it to the old broad—she's full of surprises!

WALTER HAWKINS
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New York City

'Sweet' Lowdown

KUDOS, *EW*, FOR THE ARTICLE by Tom Sinclair ("'Sweet Sweetback' to the Future") on the film legend Melvin Van Peebles and his son Mario. Melvin has inspired not only black cinema but cinema as a whole.

JOEL KIRK
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Milpitas, Calif.

Mob Seen

AFTER YEARS OF READING *EW*, I've learned to skip articles on my favorite shows or anticipated movies for fear of running into spoilers. Now even Monitor isn't safe (News & Notes)! Why on earth would you print a huge *Sopranos* spoiler right there, without any warning? With the largest picture on the page, it's awfully hard to miss.

NICOLE GRAY
hepbetty@yahoo.com
Los Angeles

'Wicked' Good

IN HER ARTICLE ON THE Tonys, Mary Kaye Schilling claimed that "many critics rightfully yawned" at the musical *Wicked* (News & Notes). Any critic who yawned at *Wicked* was not paying attention. Finally, a musical story line that people could take seriously, with soaring music and voices to rival any heard on a Broadway stage. But, of course, the critics know best. As usual, the public is wrong. Thirty years down the road, productions of *Wicked* will still be mounted, while *Avenue Q* will be a footnote in musical comedy history. And, yes, I liked that show, too.

ROB WILLS
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Scarborough, Ontario

CORRECTIONS: *In our "Casting the Sex Pistols Movie" box, a photo identified as Glen Matlock was actually of Steve Jones (Music). A Sound Bite joke about the Olsen twins on VH1's* Best Week Ever *should have been attributed to actor-comedian Doug Benson (Television).* Scary Movie 3 *was directed by David Zucker (DVD & Video).*

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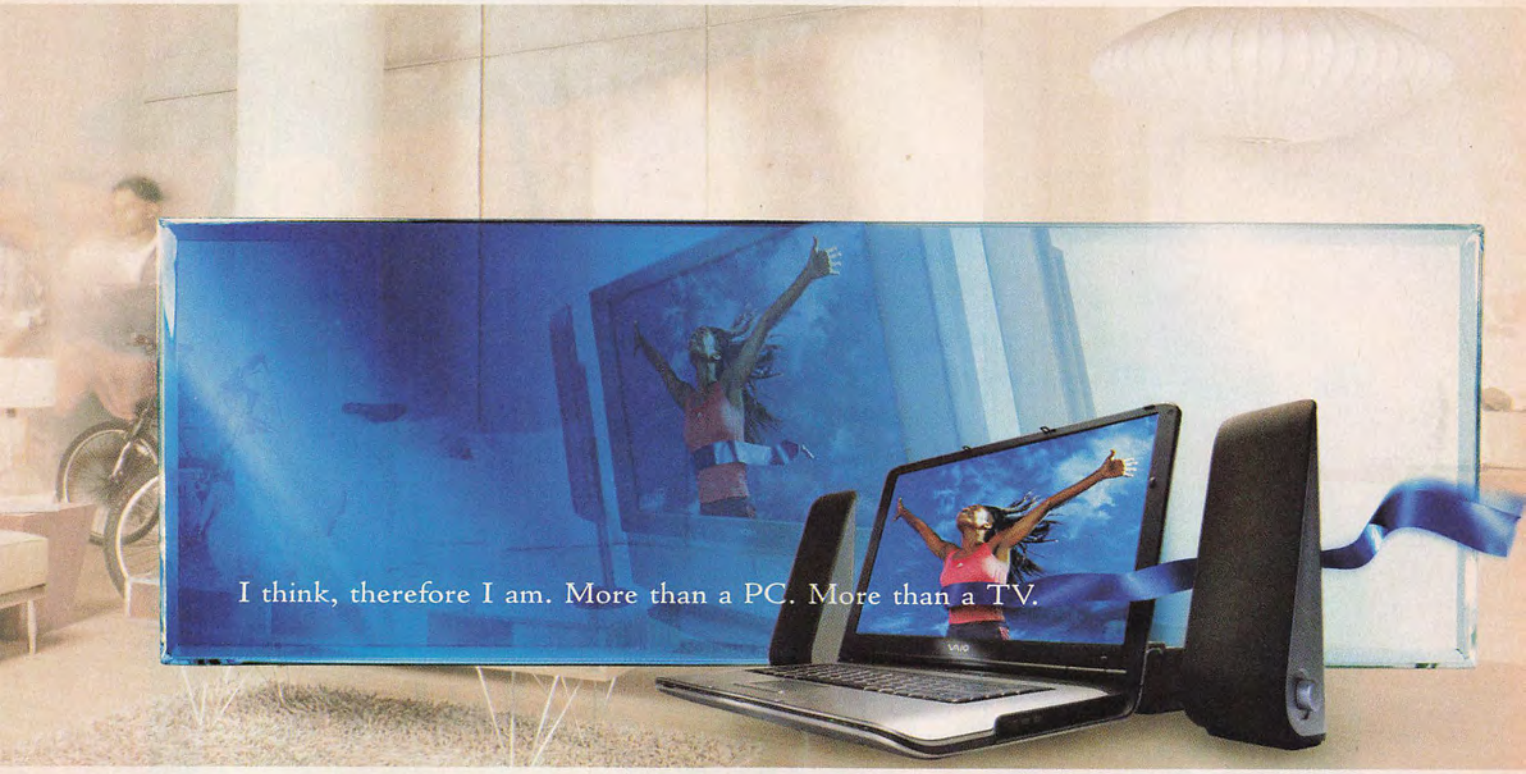

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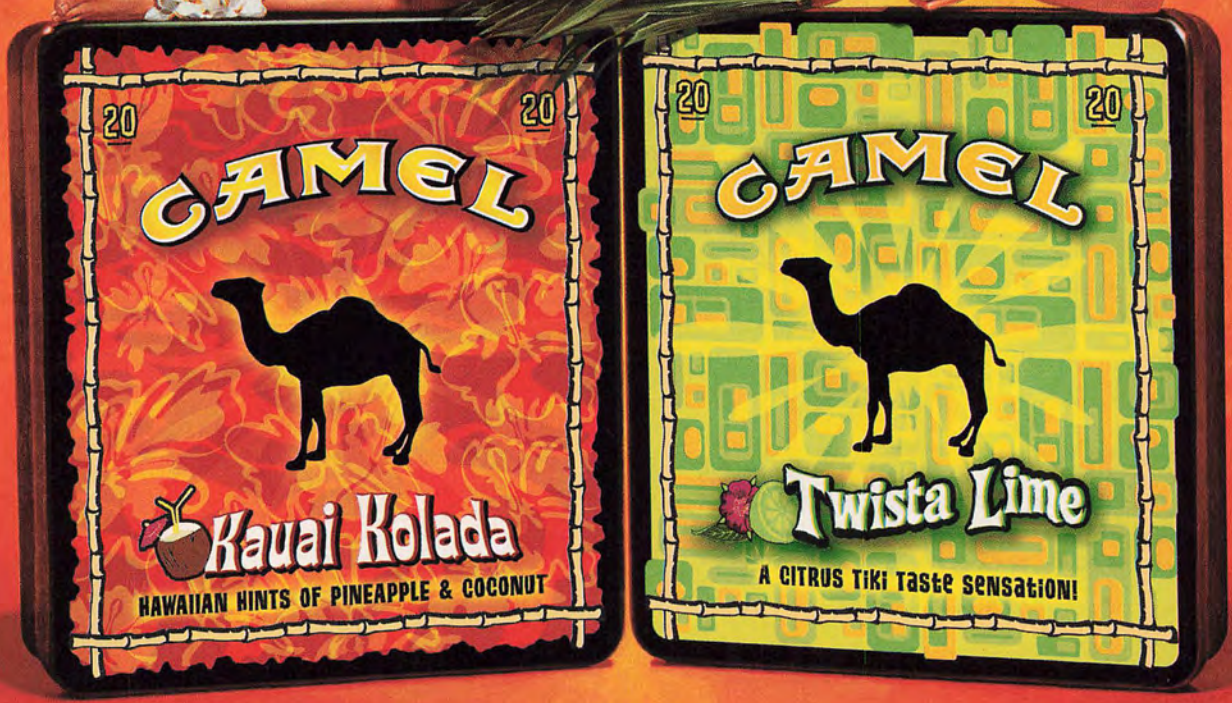

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The original *Chocolate Factory*; (below, l. to r.) *80 Days*, 1956 and 2004, *Stepford*, 1975 and 2004

EXTREME MAKEOVERS

Hollywood nips and tucks its classics—and EW peeks beneath the gauze.

by Nicholas Fonseca

YES, THERE WAS ON-SET RANCOR, last-minute reshoots, and weeks of negative press before its release. But perhaps the biggest hurdle that *The Stepford Wives* had to overcome was its pedigree: It's another friggin' remake!

While the practice is nothing new in Hollywood, movie studios seem to be suffering from a sweaty case of remake fever—but it may soon break. *Stepford* may have scored a respectable opening ($21.4 million), but tepid reviews and dismal CinemaScores are likely to make it difficult for Paramount to recoup its investment. A retelling of 1956 Oscar winner *Around the World in 80 Days* opened June 16, and on July 30 a redo of the 1962 po-

litical thriller *The Manchurian Candidate* rolls out with Meryl Streep and Denzel Washington stepping in for Angela Lansbury and Frank Sinatra. (See page 110 for Lansbury's not-so-delicate take on the film.)

Has Hollywood run out of ideas? No way, says screenwriter Paul Rudnick, who turned *Stepford*, a creepy B movie, into a post–women's lib black comedy. "I would hope that audiences wouldn't want simply a duplicate," he says. "You want to surprise them."

But not too much: Recent horror reduxes *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* and *Dawn of the Dead* stayed true to their predecessors' gory spirit, grossing a healthy $80 million and $59 million, respectively. Hollywood never frowns on box office success; thus, development rosters around town drip with titles both classic (*Harvey*, *The Seven Samurai*) and not so (*Porky's*, *The Shaggy Dog*). Here's a look at some high-profile two-timers in the works:

1955's *To Catch a Thief* (above); 1974's *The Longest Yard*

THE LONGEST YARD How do you top Burt Reynolds' crowd-pleasing 1974 football farce? Draft audience faves Adam Sandler and Chris Rock, enlist critical darling Gary Oldman as the prison warden, and make sure Reynolds can appear as the coach. Exec producer David Gale says this MTV Films production "is going to be a smart, fun version that doesn't feel stuck in the '70s. It's going to star everyone from football players to rappers. And it is not *The Waterboy*." (Whew!) Gale also plans to nod to the recent parade of felonious sports stars making news. (Opening May 27, 2005)

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY Fans of the 1971 adaptation (and there are many) bristled when Warner Bros. announced plans to revisit Roald Dahl's whimsical tale. Luckily for them, dream duo Tim Burton and Johnny Depp signed on. Screenwriter John August says his nonmusical version harks back to the first Burton-Depp collaboration, *Edward Scissorhands*. "There was something diabolical about Gene Wilder's Willy," says August. "The [Willy Wonka] that Johnny Depp is inhabiting is considerably more innocent. He's not a miscreant." August promises a fuller look at Charlie Bucket's family life and says "great big funny sections" of Dahl's book (as well as characters that went unused in the first go-round) are back. As long as Slugworth's still popping up to torment Charlie, we're there! (July 15, 2005)

THE PINK PANTHER Steve Martin took on the unenviable task of filling the late Peter Sellers' shoes for this just-wrapped farce, but director Shawn Levy insists the comic will make this MGM production all his own. "This is not a remake," insists Levy. "It's a reinterpretation. Steve had no interest in doing a Sellers imitation." This version finds Clouseau traipsing through art deco sets in midtown Manhattan with a newly added sidekick played by *La Femme Nikita*'s Jean Reno—and a decidedly modern femme fatale played by...Beyoncé Knowles! (July 22, 2005)

TO CATCH A THIEF Screenwriter Todd Komarnicki knows that retelling an Alfred Hitchcock tale is a major risk, but he considers the 1955 Cary Grant/Grace Kelly caper one of the director's fluffier offerings. "It was a delicacy on the Hitchcock menu, not one of his full-meal movies," says Komarnicki, who's moved the action from Monaco to Miami. "This was a chance to re-enliven something people remember fondly but are not slavishly devoted to. This is not a shot-by-shot remake like [Gus Van Sant's version of] *Psycho*." He also promises a faster pace: "Thievery has become so advanced with alarm systems and bodyguards and everything protected. We're going to see some really badass thieving this time around." (In development) ■ *(Additional reporting by Liane Bonin and Missy Schwartz)*

THE BEST

1 *Ocean's Eleven* (2001) A hellzapoppin' cast turned the Rat Pack's so-so 1960 caper into a glitzy love letter to Vegas.

2 *Dawn of the Dead* (2004) Bloody, hysterical, and scary as hell. How remakes oughta be.

3 *The Thomas Crown Affair* (1999) Made us forget Steve McQueen and Faye Dunaway's steamy 1968 chess game.

4 *Cape Fear* (1991) Robert De Niro chewed the swampy scenery in Martin Scorsese's twisted take on the 1962 classic.

5 *The Wiz* (1978) Props for taking a risk and plunging Diana Ross' Dorothy into a big-city ghetto...

THE WORST

1 *The Wiz* (1978)...but for most, this dreary take mars memories of the original.

2 *Sabrina* (1995) and *The Truth About Charlie* (2002) Dear Julia Ormond and Thandie Newton: Never try to channel our beloved Audrey Hepburn again. Love, EW

3 *Psycho* (1998) Left anybody who saw it asking, Why?!?!?

4 *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (2003) Like a WB show gone horribly awry.

5 *Gloria* (1999) Another nail in Sharon Stone's career coffin! —*NF*

(THIS PAGE) TO CATCH A THIEF: MPTV.NET; THE LONGEST YARD, OCEAN'S ELEVEN (1960), THE WIZARD OF OZ, THE WIZ, SABRINA: EVERETT COLLECTION; CAPE FEAR: PHILLIP CARUSO/UNIVERSAL/KOBAL COLLECTION

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HOT sheet

by JIM MULLEN

1. **BRITNEY SPEARS** She blew out a knee making a music video. In future concerts she may lip-synch from backstage while a double dances for her.

2. ***THE TERMINAL*** Harmless Tom Hanks is a foreigner living in an airport because he doesn't have the right papers to enter our country. It's only the bad people we let right in.

3. **SPEAK!** A scientific study says dogs can understand about 200 words. The only ones they can't learn: "No!" and "Get down!"

4. **MILK** While no one was looking, prices shot up to as much as $4 a gallon. No worries, plans to invade Denmark are under way.

5.

SEX AND THE CITY
TBS is airing a toned-down version of the comedy. It's pretty much the same, except that they don't swear, don't have sex, and wear burkas.

6. **FLY-IN TIE-INS** Some want the John Wayne Airport in Orange County to change its name to The O.C. Why not? As long as it's right off the new ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY freeway.

7. ***AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS*** Jackie Chan helps a 19th-century adventurer complete an impossible feat. It's hard to travel when you suffer from hot-air-balloon-lag.

8. ***METHOD & RED*** A new sitcom about two rap stars who move into a mansion in a ritzy suburb. Many of their neighbors have never seen a stretch riding mower.

9. **VAN HALEN** The boys say they're happy to be back touring with Sammy Hagar again. Please. They split up and recombine so often they should call themselves "The Chromosomes."

10. ***DODGEBALL*** Sleazy health club owner Ben Stiller takes on a team of geeks for $50,000 in prize money. Which is one dollar for every getting-hit-in-the-head-or-the-crotch gag.

Shadows & Blog

Is a Hollywood player really skewering his pals online—or are we being played?

An anonymous weblog by self-proclaimed A-list actor "Rance" has been dishing ribald Hollywood stories since last December. The supposed celeb has observers feverishly speculating on his true identity. EW slogged through the blog (*captainhoof.tripod.com/blog*) and uncovered hidden clues that point to the mystery man. —*Paul S. Katz*

Could It Be George Clooney?

Blog Reveals... Sailed the Mediterranean, partying with actor friends. At the same time, Clooney was carousing with pals, filming *Ocean's Twelve*. **But Still...** One entry ridiculed the "synthetic" nature of Brad Pitt's *Troy*. Hard to believe a man who donned a nippled, ab-sculpted Batsuit would mock artificiality.

Could It Be Jim Carrey?

Blog Reveals... Rance says he won *and* lost at the Golden Globes. Carrey has too, winning for *The Truman Show* and *Man on the Moon* and losing for three, including *The Mask*. **But Still...** An item admits to admiration of Joan Rivers. Could the elastic-faced comic really appreciate such shoddy work in plastic?

Could It Be Ben Affleck?

Blog Reveals... The answer to a posted Shakespearean brainteaser was "V.O."—the same initials Affleck, who appeared in *Shakespeare in Love*, has tattooed on his back! **But Still...** Rance's favorite extracurricular activities include drinking, women, and gambling. Ben *hates* all those things.

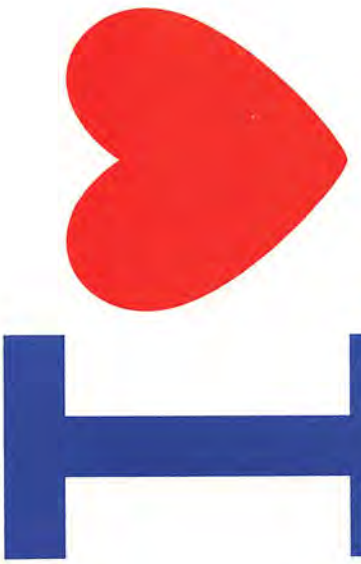
Could It Be Owen Wilson?

Blog Reveals... A belief in the power of witches and the occult. Wilson delved into the spirit world for his role in *The Haunting*, a spooky thriller. **But Still...** Nope, it must actually be Wilson. Clearly, the man was possessed—it's the only way to explain teaming up with Eddie Murphy for *I Spy*.

Host with the most! George Lopez returns to Latin Grammys Sept. 1... Idol winner Fantasia has dropped her last name

ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN UELAND

BARBARA



[instructions on back]

What do you love?

Your kids?
Your dog?

Garden lawn gnomes?

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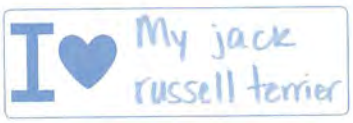
Some starters



Good!

Better!

1. Take a moment,
listen to your heart.
What does it love?

Now,
grab a pen

and write it in.

*TIP: THINK THICK!
The thicker the pen,
the farther
away people can
read it.

Also sticks to:

- Bicycles
- Skateboards
- Notebooks
- Refrigerators
- Lampshades
- Best friend's back

2. Don't let the words
"bumper sticker"
mislead you.
This will stick
just about anywhere
you can dream up.

Just make sure
you want it there
for a while.

Now, stick it on.

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The Deal Report

MURRAY

MOVIES As RZA and GZA might say, "*What's new, Billmurray?*" Their *Coffee and Cigarettes* costar will apparently join the cast of *The Lost City*—the Deal Report says "apparently" because you can never quite get a straight answer out of this guy or his reps, which, hey, is part of why we all love him so much, right? He'd play an expat writer who pals around with Andy Garcia in 1950s Cuba—sort of like he's the incomparable Oscar Levant to Garcia's Gene Kelly, for all you fellow *An American in Paris* fans out there.... Speaking of *Ghostbusters 2*, another Vigo—Viggo Mortensen, so great in Sean Penn's *The Indian Runner*—is in final negotiations for *A History of Violence*, an adaptation of John Wagner and Vince Locke's graphic novel about a small-town diner owner who, because the thing is called *A History of Violence* and *Scanners* squirm-meister David Cronenberg is directing, is a sure bet to fall on some rock-hard times.... Dave Chappelle—who found a nifty *Chappelle's Show* catchphrase in "I'm Rick James, bitch!"—might actually play Rick James, bitch, in a Rick James biopic based on James' upcoming *Memoirs of a Super Freak*.

MORTENSEN

CHAPPELLE

TELEVISION Gabe Sachs and Jeff Judah—uh, who? These are writer-producers from the great, gone *Freaks and Geeks*, and they just scored a big deal with Touchstone TV to exec-produce a family drama called *Life as We Know It* for ABC, and maybe a Jennifer Love Hewitt sitcom, too. Since EW likes *Freaks* an awful lot (see Must List item No. 40), we thought this was worth mentioning, okay? —*Gregory Kirschling*

MURRAY: RON GALELLA/WIREIMAGE.COM; MORTENSEN: JEN LOWERY/LONDON FEATURES; CHAPPELLE: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM; ANTHRAX: ILPO MUSTO/LONDON FEATURES; MERCEDES HOOD ORNAMENT: PETER YATES/CORBIS

The Shaw Report BY JESSICA SHAW

IN	FIVE MINUTES AGO	OUT
RICHARD QUEST	RICHARD HATCH	RICKY SCHRODER
KERRY-OKE	MOVIE-OKE	KARAOKE
QUITTING YOUR JOB	CLIMBING THE RANKS	ENTREPRENEURS

Polish rockers Decapitated; Anthrax (inset)

Scrapped Metal

Did a tragedy in Iraq derail a band's tour?

REMEMBER BACK IN 2001 WHEN a mail scare made the band Anthrax suddenly seem oh-so-unfortunately named? A similar misfortune may have befallen Polish death-metal band Decapitated, who just canceled their U.S. summer tour. Their label, Earache, says the decision was partly a matter of taste. "We've received e-mails from people... connecting the band's name to [Nick Berg's] murder in Iraq," says a rep. But the band's U.S. agent, John Finberg, claims the real reason for the plug pull is money. "It had nothing to do with decapitation in Iraq," he insists. "The label and the band had disagreements about funding the tour." Either way, this can't be good news for the band slated to open for Decapitated: Cattle Decapitation. —*Jamie Reno*

NECESSARY OBJECTS?

EW's Summer-Movie Product Watch

They are so ready for their close-ups! A few venerable (and by "venerable," we mean old) brands get some screen time.

Coca-Cola It's the 1940s and Coke is it for *The Notebook*'s yearning youngsters. A billboard touts the soda, which has been around since 1886.

Mercedes Both women in the life of *The Door in the Floor*'s WASPy writer—wife and mistress—tool around in cars from the company (est. 1886).

Planters Peanuts The salty snack (around since 1906) may be eaten up, but an empty peanut can holds something precious in *The Terminal*.

Legendary New York Improv reopens June 22, after 10 years; alumni Robert Klein, Joe Piscopo, Dave Attell set to perform

SAAB 9-2X

Hang on to your change.

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The all new Saab 9-2X with tenacious all-wheel drive handling, road-blistering performance and 5-door versatility.

Thrills start at $22,990 MSRP*

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Patriot Act

In Disney's small world, 'Heart' wins out over heat

CONTROVERSY, VIOLENCE, and comedy would seem like the perfect recipe for a summer blockbuster—but not for Disney, which blocked its Miramax division from releasing Michael Moore's Bush-bashing doc, *Fahrenheit 9/11*. "[The film] just didn't work with our company policy," explains Dennis Rice, Disney's senior VP of publicity. What does work with it is Louis Schwartzberg's 86-minute greeting card, *America's Heart & Soul*. The ode to American values—picture purple mountain majesty—hits theaters July 2 (*Fahrenheit*, released by the Fellowship Adventure Group, opens June 25). "Unlike [Moore], Schwartzberg doesn't cram his message down your throat. He just shows the world as we know it," says Rice, who's hoping Disney's outreach to Rotary Clubs will help draw crowds to witness *America*'s 24 patriotic vignettes, including profiles of a blind mountaineer and a reformed felon. "The film is like a patchwork quilt of all the different voices that make up this country." All those, that is, but Moore's. —*Karyn L. Barr*

America's Heart & Soul

PLANES, TRAINS, AND...

Long before Tom Hanks touched down for an extended stay at JFK airport in *The Terminal*, Gary Coleman's runaway set up house in a Chicago train station in 1981's movie *On the Right Track*. Who's better at transit-hub living? —*Paul S. Katz*

Room With No View Tom's man-without-a-country bunks down on a set of chairs at Gate 67. Nice, but Gary's converted storage lockers—with air-conditioning!—are larger than most big-city apartments.

Good Eats Tom's first Big Apple bite is at a concourse Burger King, while Gary chows on deep-dish pizza. It's fast-food fare vs. a Chicago classic. Tom, you're giving us agita.

Risky Business Gary runs a successful porter service—until he's beaten and robbed. Ouch. We'll stick with Tom's under-the-table construction job. Not paying taxes to Uncle Sam? The American dream!

Winner Tom's an adept airport denizen, but Gary takes the travel-lodging prize.

British survey finds Homer's "D'oh!" is favorite TV comedy catchphrase

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2 oz. SKYY Berry
1 oz. cranberry juice
Shake in a shaker with ice, strain into a chilled martini glass and top with a splash of lemon lime soda.
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FLAGS: CORBIS; *THE TERMINAL*: MERRICK MORTON; COLEMAN: JEAN-PAUL AUSSENARD/WIREIMAGE.COM; HANKS: JON KOPALOFF/FILMMAGIC.COM

Sisters Sue and Jane want a great way to buy a used car.

Sue decides to check out eBay Motors.

Sue sees detailed descriptions and tons of photos for hundreds of cars that she likes.

Sue sees a great deal on the exact car she wants and buys it at a price less than retail.

Sue feels secure knowing she's covered by eBay's Vehicle Purchase Protection.

Sue couldn't be happier.

Jane opts for her local classifieds.

Jane sees very small, fragmented type that makes no sense to her.

Jane wonders what a "97 Cql xi nw pt LM w/ mnf" looks like.

Jane hopes "LM" doesn't stand for "lemon."

Jane's "stmch hrts."

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eBay Motors

FIRST LOOK

INTO THE BLUE We know we're not *Maxim*, but we couldn't resist this shot of Jessica Alba from MGM's upcoming ocean adventure. The former *Dark Angel* star plays Sam, a shark expert who discovers treasure—and a stash of drugs and some dead bodies—while on a trip to the Bahamas. "I did all my own diving," says Alba, who got her scuba license when she was 13. "We had doubles, but I'm probably in 99 percent of the footage." Joining her in the surf was *2 Fast 2 Furious* star Paul Walker (inset). "I think he actually looked better in this movie than I've ever seen him," says Alba. "But that's my biased opinion, mind you." —*Clarissa Cruz*

JOHN JOHNSON (2)

STYLE SHEET

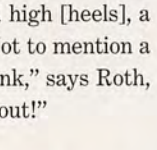
Bevy Suburban

The Stepford Wives' award-winning costumer sheds light on the film's shiny happy style. by Alice M. Lee

TO CONCEPTUALIZE THE PERFECTLY MANICURED style of *The Stepford Wives*' alluring automatons, Oscar-winning costume designer Ann Roth (*The English Patient*) delved into the minds of the movie's married men. "I wanted the [fashion] to come out of their heads," says Roth of the characters played by Christopher Walken and Matthew Broderick. "They are all corporate high achievers and brilliant scientists, so they have similar tastes," she says. "They all want Breck Girls."

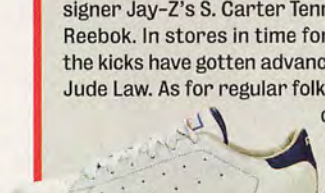
Dressed in such country-club staples as Bermuda shorts and Lilly Pulitzer jackets, these Stepford husbands conjure up a domestic goddess at once demure and kinky, with candy-colored sundresses and gowns paired with spiky Manolo Blahniks. To satisfy this suburban fantasy, Roth customized both store-bought (Saks, Bergdorf) and secondhand clothes—in addition to creating original designs—but was careful not to go too far. "I didn't want it to be campy," she says of "Queen Bee" Claire Wellington's (Glenn Close) only slightly over-the-top lemon-lime floral frock and new neighbor Joanna's (Nicole Kidman) flouncy, girly pastels. "I wanted all the women to look as naive as children's paper dolls," says Roth. Paper dolls with oomph: "Every single woman had high [heels], a tiny waist, and a lovely bosom." Not to mention a wrinkle-free brow. "They can't think," says Roth, "so they have nothing to worry about!"

Item of the Week



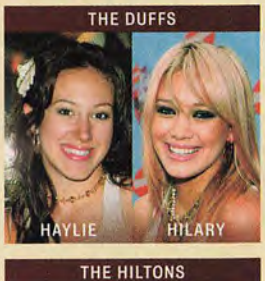
S. Carter Sneaks

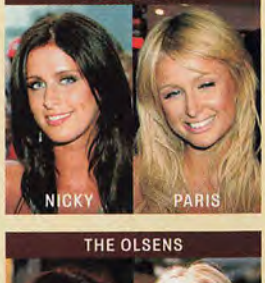
The season's hottest sneaker is rapper/designer Jay-Z's S. Carter Tennis shoe from Reebok. In stores in time for Father's Day, the kicks have gotten advance love from David Arquette and Jude Law. As for regular folks looking to score a pair, much of the initial stock is presold. Says a Reebok rep: "It's amazing that the demand warrants a waiting list." —*Raymond Fiore*



Busta Brown

How to differentiate yourself from your blond, more famous sibling? Go brown! The latest dye job belongs to Ashlee Simpson, whose show debuts on MTV after big sis Jessica's on June 16. Says stylist Ken Paves: "[Going dark] is courageous and much edgier." Here are some celeb-sib brunettes. (For the moment, anyway—Haylie Duff has already gone back to blond.) —*Doree Lewak*



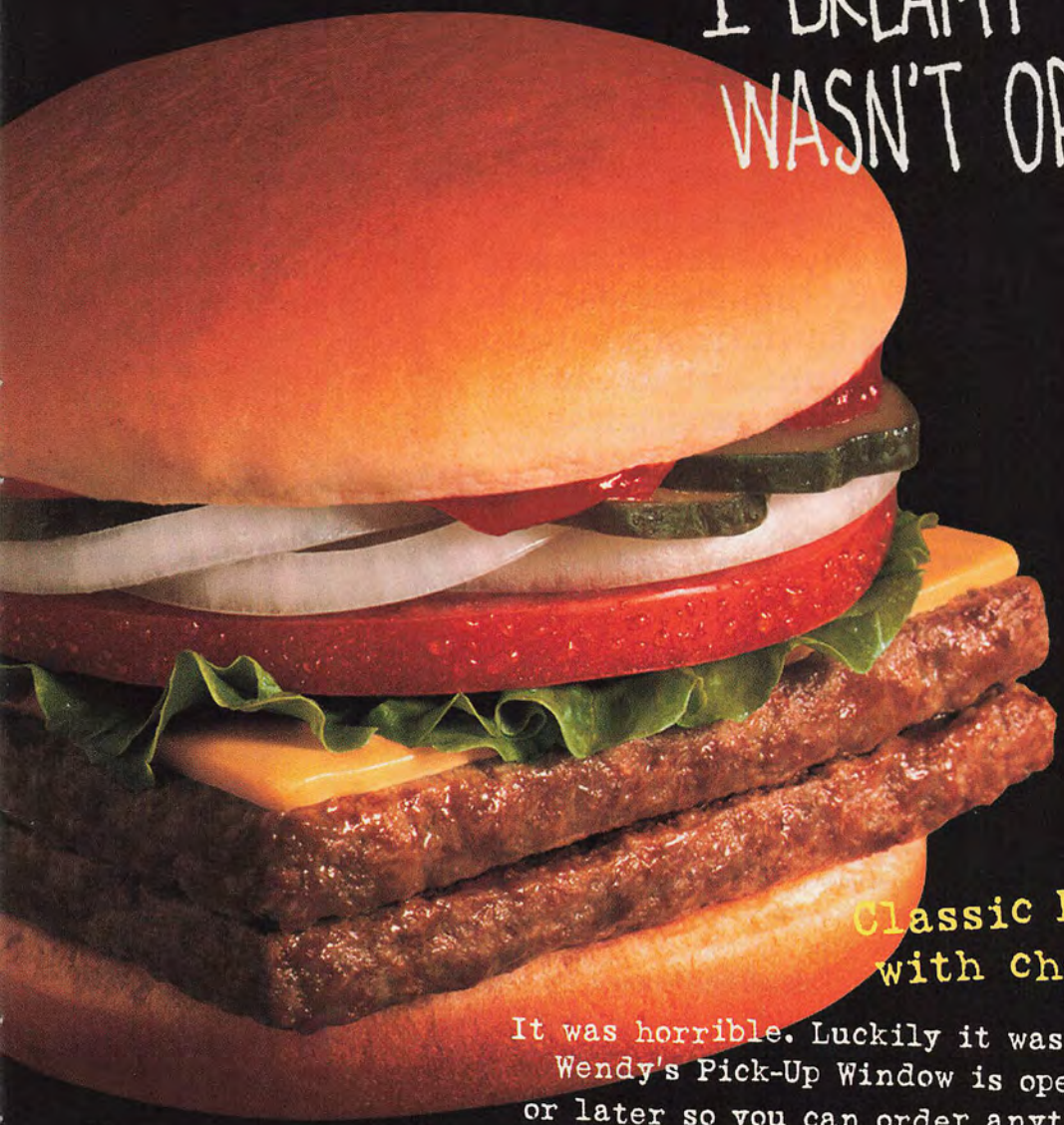


THE STEPFORD WIVES: ANDREW SCHWARTZ (2); JAY-Z: RICHARD STONEHOUSE/CAMERA PRESS/RETNA; S. CARTER SNEAKER: COURTESY OF REEBOK; ASHLEE SIMPSON: JEAN-PAUL AUSSENARD/WIREIMAGE.COM; JESSICA SIMPSON: TIM SOTER/WIREIMAGE.COM; HAYLIE DUFF: JEN LOWERY/LFI; HILARY DUFF: KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE.COM; NICKY HILTON: DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/WIREIMAGE.COM; PARIS HILTON: JEFFREY MAYER/WIREIMAGE.COM; MARY-KATE OLSEN: GRAYSON ALEXANDER/RETNA; ASHLEY OLSEN: LESTER COHEN/WIREIMAGE.COM

Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto supervises costuming for Miramax's The Blind Swordsman: Zatoichi, *in theaters July 23*

-Mr. Wendy

"I HAD A NIGHTMARE: I DREAMT WENDY'S® WASN'T OPEN LATE."



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Sweet dreams.

-Mr. Wendy, "Unofficial" Spokesman

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Monitor

ENGAGEMENTS

Angry and bitter no more, singer **Alanis Morissette**, 30, will wed **Ryan Reynolds** (*National Lampoon's Van Wilder*), 27. It will be the first marriage for both.

BIRTHS

Courteney Cox Arquette, 40, and her husband of five years, **David Arquette**, 32, welcomed their first lil' Friend, daughter Coco, June 13 in Los Angeles.

SPLITS

Conservative radio commentator **Rush Limbaugh**, 53, and Marta, 45, his wife of 10 years, have called it quits. It was his third marriage.... On June 8, TLC's **T-Boz** (née Tionne Watkins), 33, filed for divorce from rapper **Mack 10** (né Dedrick Rolison), 32, saying he committed adultery and threatened to kill her. The Grammy winner seeks full custody of their 3-year-old daughter. Rolison has denied all charges and has won a court order giving him access to his child.

AILING

Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, 34, missed matinee and evening performances of *A Raisin in the Sun* on June 12, 13, and 15 because of an undisclosed stomach ailment.

PREMIERE So maybe *Around the World in 80 Days*' Jackie Chan isn't so tough. Sure, the action star will hang upside down from a helicopter to film a stunt, but just don't ask him to do any water tricks. "I don't like boats. I get seasick."

DEPARTURES

On June 14, The WB's **Jordan Levin**, 36, resigned as CEO of the network. Shortly after the announcement was made, chairman Garth Ancier named David Janollari as president of entertainment.

DEALS

After a bitter legal battle, Warner Music Group announced June 14 an agreement to buy **Madonna**, 45, out of their Maverick Records joint venture. No details were revealed.

RECOVERING

In the recuperating zone? **Britney Spears** (right), 22, has canceled her summer Onyx Hotel Tour after undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery on June 10. The singer injured herself taking a tumble while shooting a music video for "Outrageous" with rapper **Snoop Dogg**, 32. She's immobile for the next six weeks.... Newly

svelte model **Anna Nicole Smith**, 36, is in stable condition after falling off a boat and fracturing two ribs while filming in the Caribbean last month.

CANCELLATIONS

Citing "mental and physical exhaustion," **the Vines** backed out of their support spot on Incubus' North American summer tour, slated to kick off on June 24 in Atlantic City.

COURTS

Actress **Brigitte Bardot**, 69, was convicted June 10 in France of inciting racial hatred for portraying Muslims in a negative light in her outspoken book *A Scream in the Silence* and ordered to pay a $6,000 fine. She has previously denied the accusation.... Troubled singer **Courtney Love**, 39, turned herself in on felony assault charges for allegedly battering L.A. musician Kristin King with a bottle and a metal flashlight at Love's ex-boyfriend Jim Barber's house on April 25. Love, who is out on $55,000 bail, has postponed her summer tour to address her "frivolous, malicious complaints and legal matters." She is scheduled to resume her tour in Japan in August.... Amusing Diversions, Inc. sued rapper **DMX** (né Earl Simmons), 33, on June 9 in NYC for breach of contract. The corporation is asking for $90,000, claiming that DMX failed to actively promote Dogwear, Inc., a canine clothing line, as stated in their agreement, and that he promoted a competitor's products instead. Reps for DMX did not return calls for comment.... On June 9, rapper **Eminem**, 31, won a preliminary

IRONIES Comedy makes strange bedfellows. Take Bill Maher's stand-up concert June 25 at the House of Blues at Downtown Disney in Anaheim, Calif. Key word here is Disney, which owns ABC, which canceled Maher's *Politically Incorrect* six months after his controversial zingers about the U.S. military—and which has been a frequent target of his jokes since. Maher declined to comment on the gig, though a Disney rep pointed out that the House of Blues is independently owned and books its own entertainment. —*Jamie Reno*

CHAN: TAMMIE ARROYO/AP PHOTO; LIMBAUGH: KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE.COM; COMBS: JIM SPELLMAN/WIREIMAGE.COM; SMITH: DENNIS VAN TINE/LFI; SPEARS: GRAHAM JEPSON/WIREIMAGE.COM; MAHER: JEAN-PAUL AUSSENARD/WIREIMAGE.COM; TAYLOR: DAVID FISHER/LFI

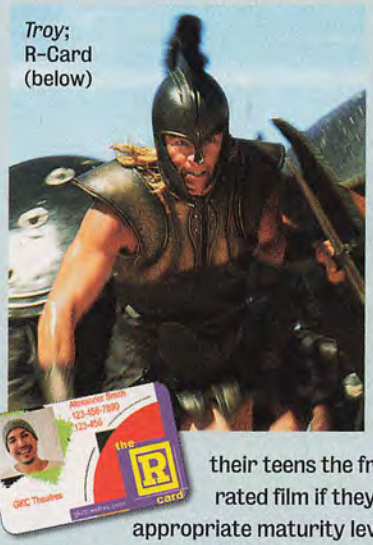
victory in his feud with *The Source* when a federal court held the magazine in contempt for publishing the complete lyrics of two of the rapper's early controversial recordings. *The Source* says it will "be victorious in the end."... Acting legend **Elizabeth Taylor** (right), 72, has reached an out-of-court settlement with Willem Van Muyden, her former gardener, who claimed he had been fired after refusing the sexual advances of her butler. The gardener had sued Taylor in 2002, claiming she owed him $294,000. The undisclosed terms were "amicably reached" in the first week of June, according to Van Muyden's lawyer.

DEATHS

Academy Award-winning cinematographer **Edmund M. DiGiulio** (1975's *Barry Lyndon*), 76, who also helped develop the Steadicam, of congestive heart failure, June 4, in Malibu, Calif.... Actress **Lu Leonard** (*Jake and the Fat Man*), 77, of heart failure, May 14, in Woodland Hills, Calif.... Producer **Brian Linehan**, 58, host of the long-running Canadian celebrity talk show *City Lights*, of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, June 4, in Toronto.... Special-effects whiz **Donald Edmund Trumbull** (1977's *Star Wars*), 95, of natural causes, June 7, in Graeagle, Calif.... Italian film star **Nino Manfredi**, 83, reportedly of stroke complications, June 4, in Rome.... Game-show announcer **Gene Wood**, 78, of lung cancer, May 21, in Boston. —*Karyn L. Barr and Michelle Kung, with additional reporting by Adam B. Vary*

KIDS 'R' ALRIGHT

A new card allows underage filmgoing



Troy; R-Card (below)

Attention, teens under 17: You don't have to sneak into R-rated films anymore! At select theaters in Illinois and Michigan, underage kids with parental permission can use an R-Card to see movies like *Troy* or last March's *Dawn of the Dead* without an adult. "Parents can give their teens the freedom to watch an R-rated film if they feel they're at the appropriate maturity level," says Hiede Cravens, marketing manager at GKC Theatres, which introduced the card last October. (Already nearly 500 teens have signed up.) But MPAA prez Jack Valenti questions the any-R-movie-is-fine stance. "There must be an accompanying parent," says the ratings czar. "They can't do it by card because that's a blanket endorsement of every R film—and that, of course, is wrong." —*Jason Guerrasio*

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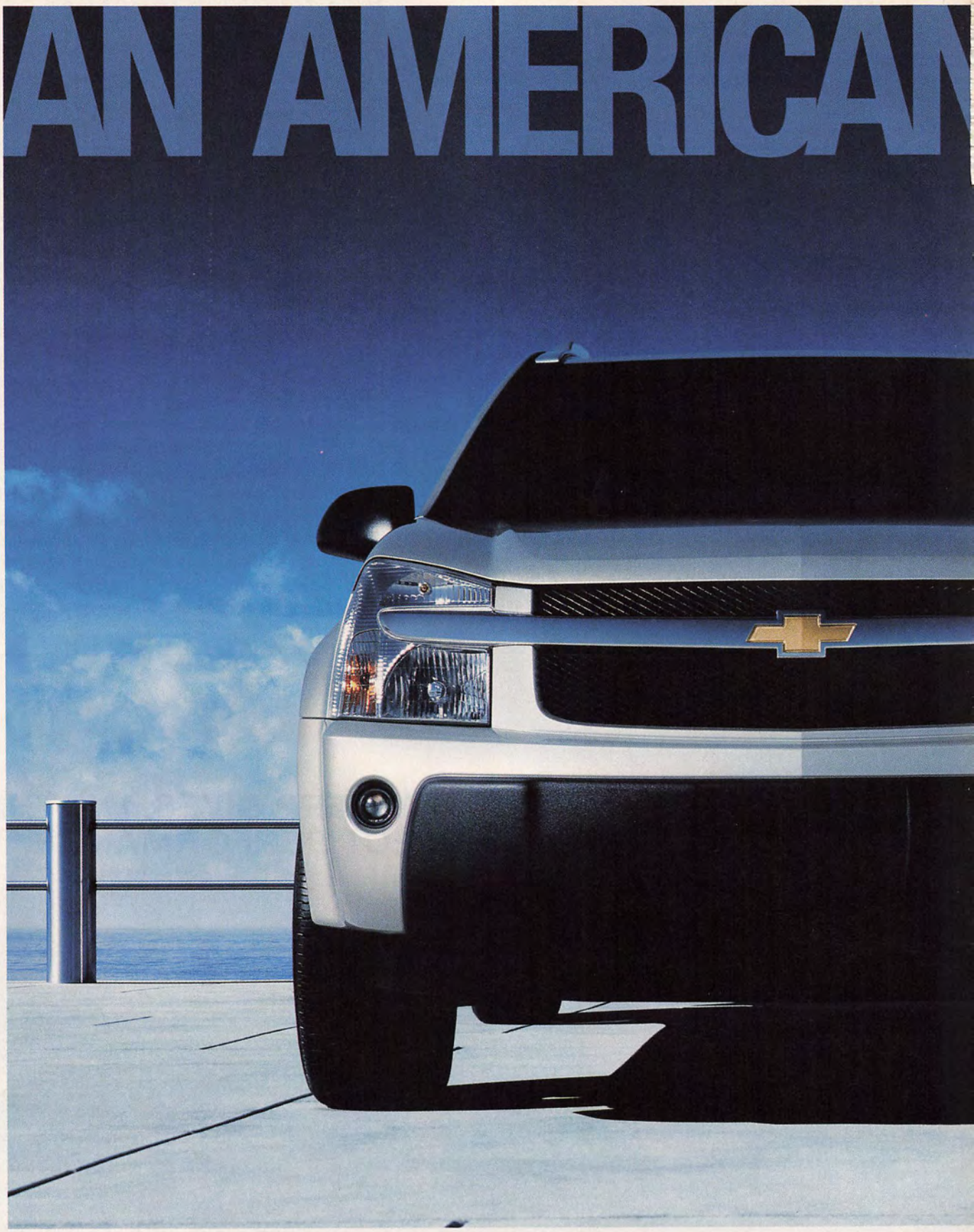

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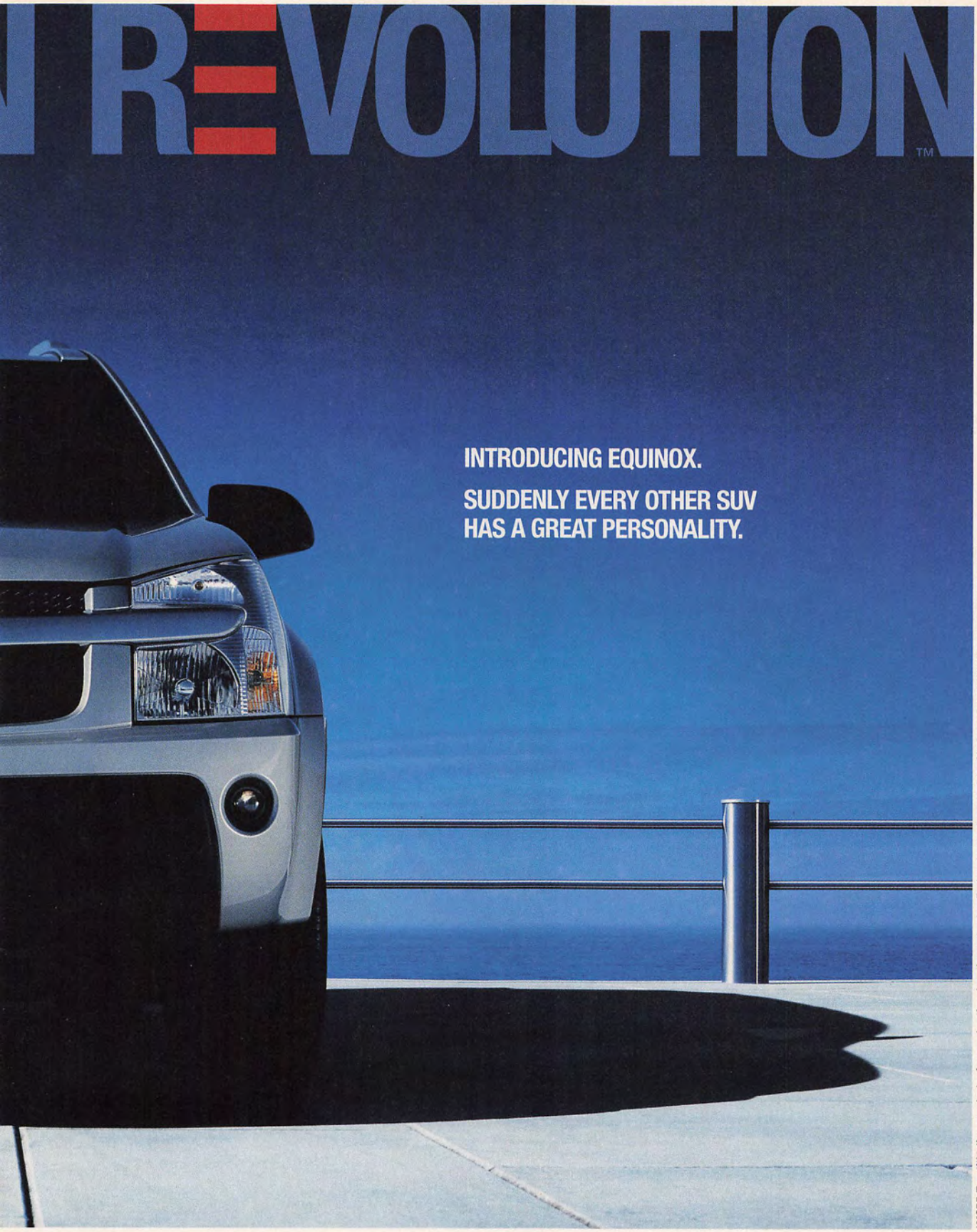

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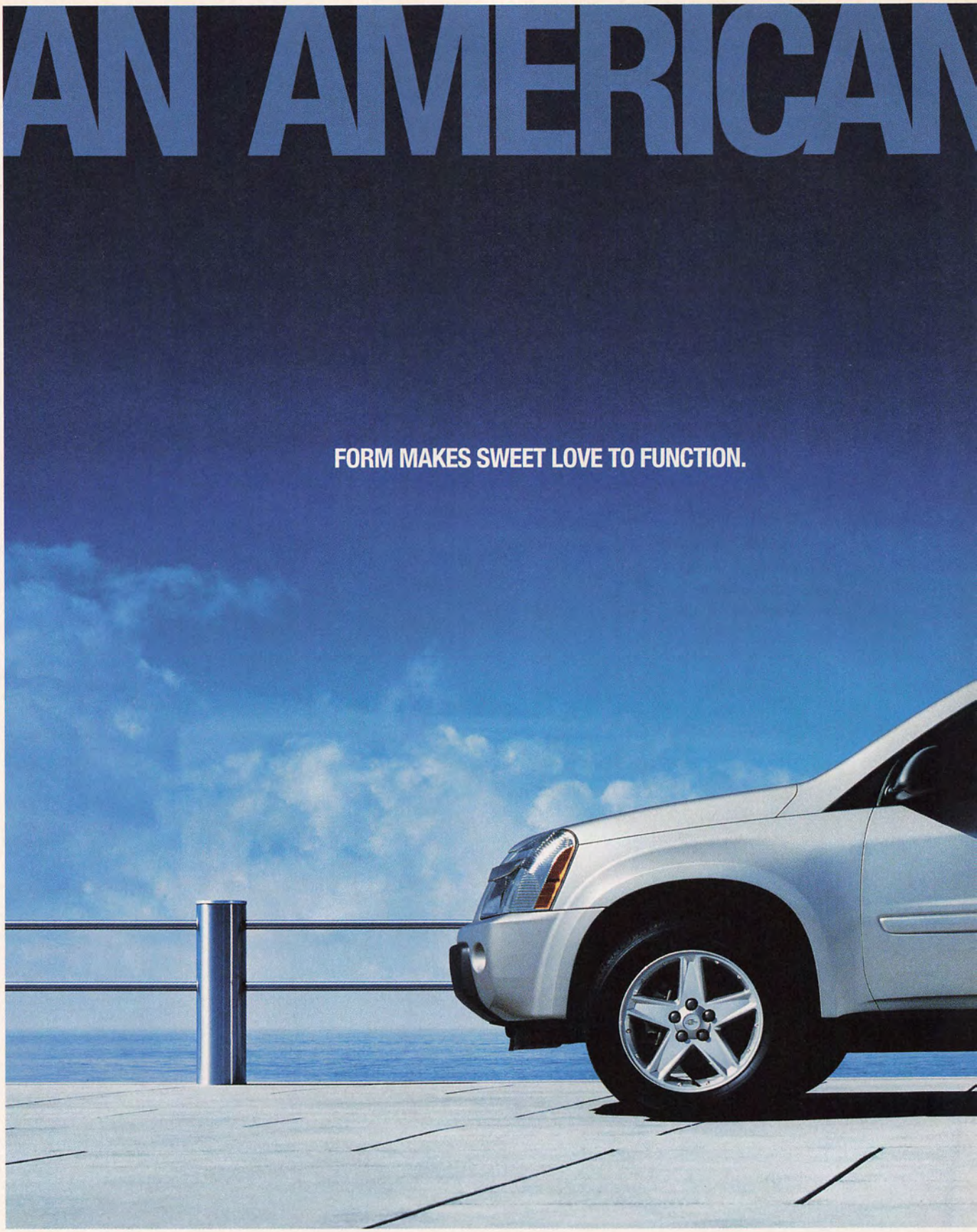

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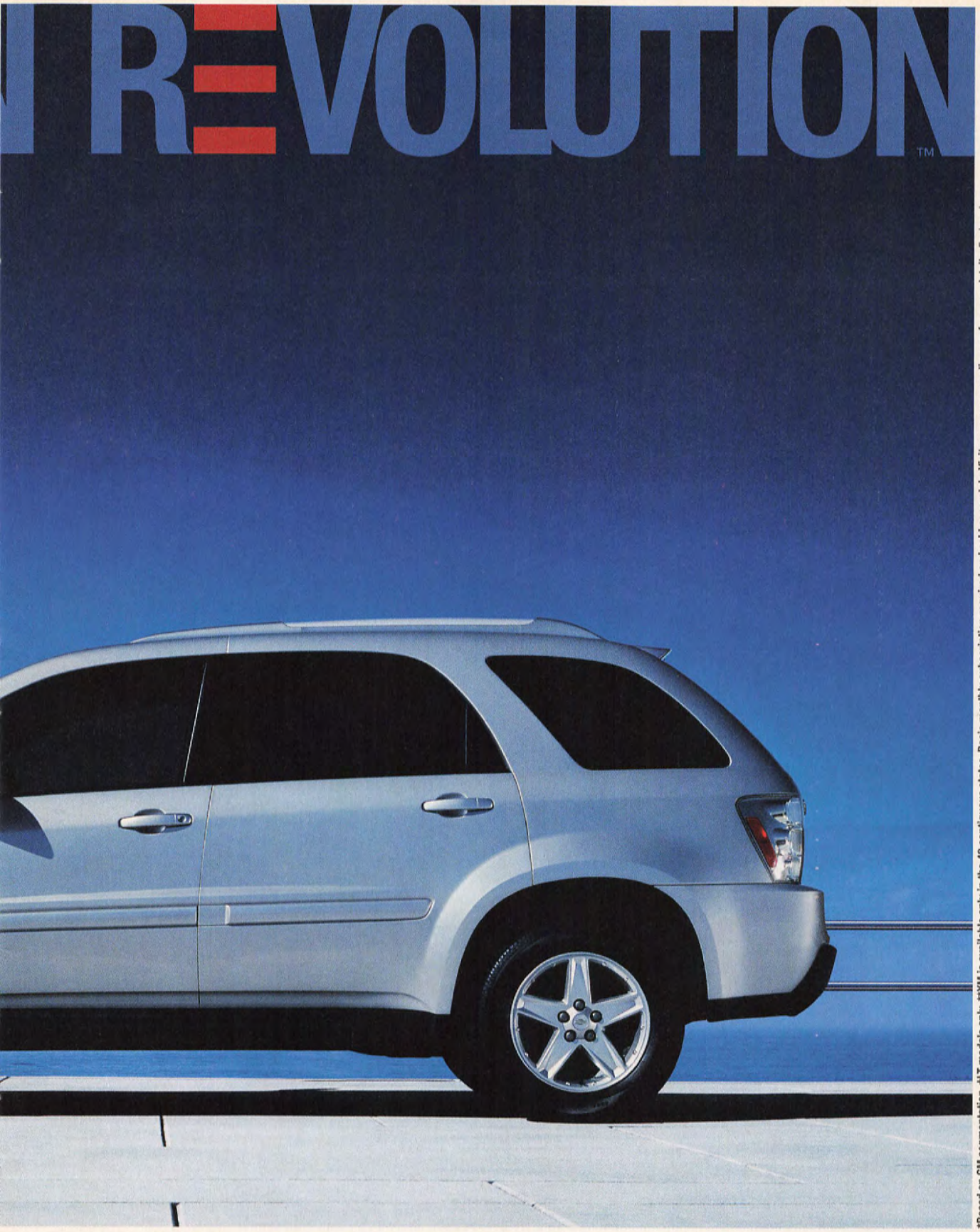

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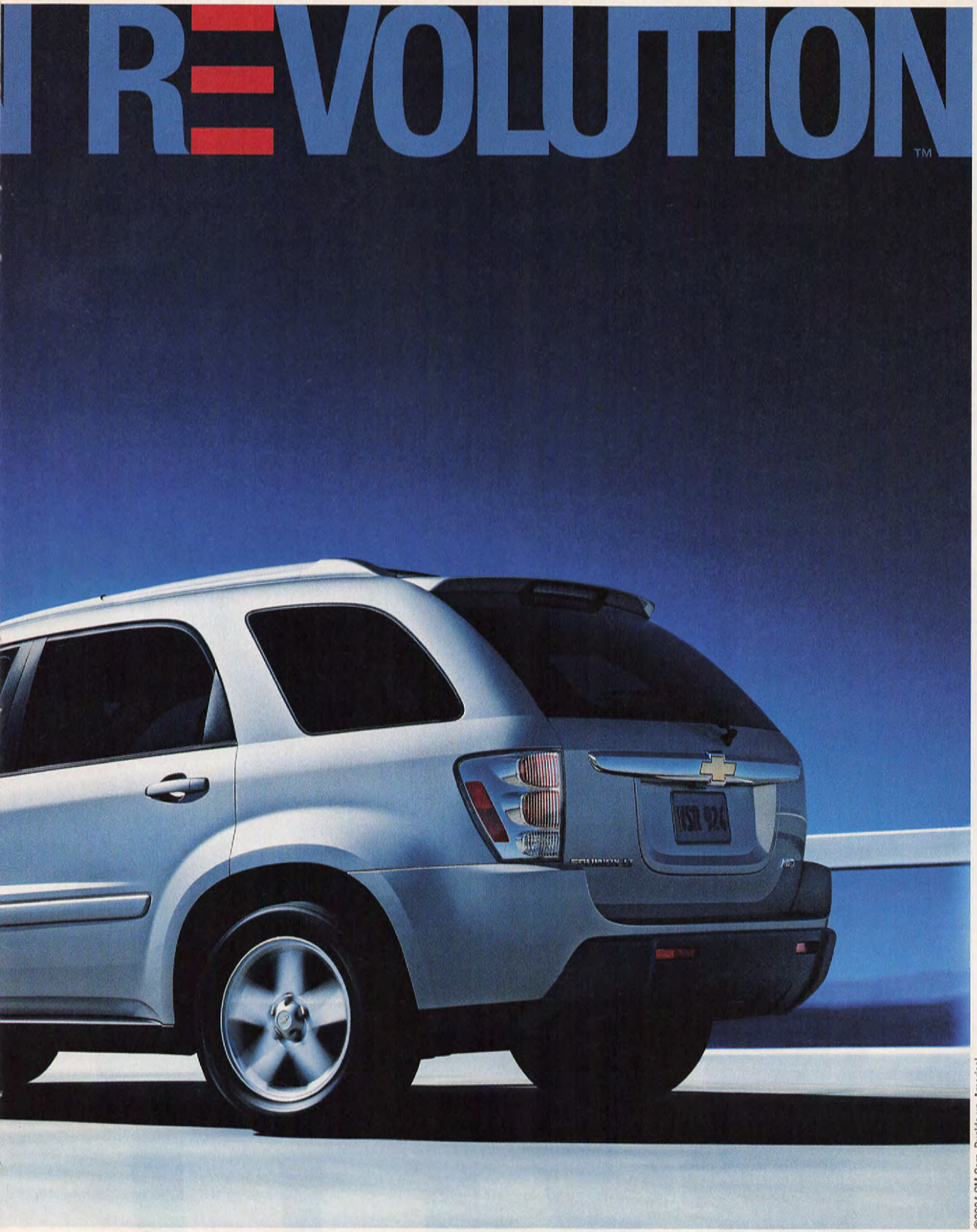

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RAY CHARLES

1930
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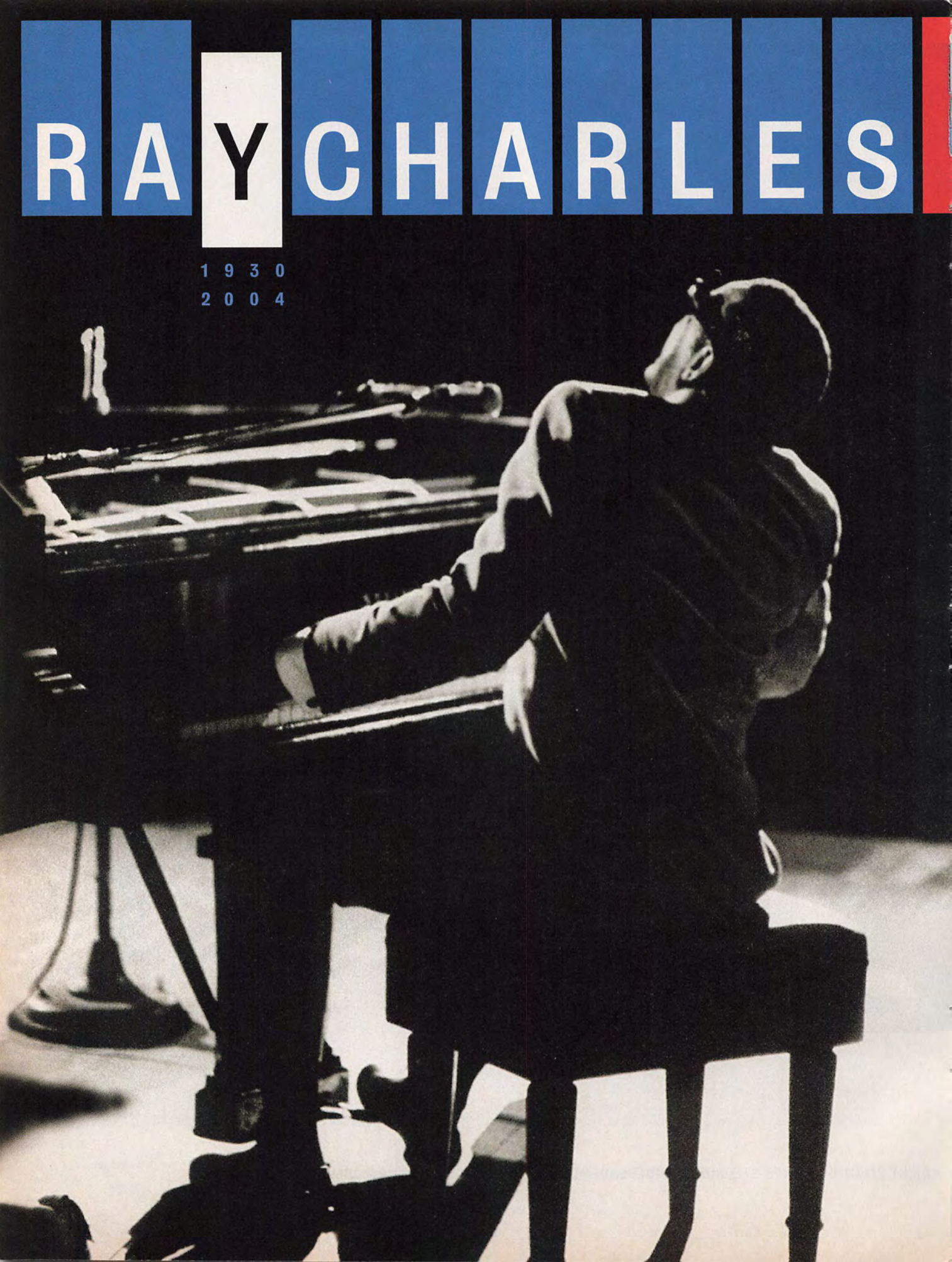

FIVE DECADES AGO, A BLIND ORPHAN SAT AT A PIANO AND BELTED OUT RAW YET SOPHISTICATED SONGS THAT FOREVER CHANGED MUSIC. HIS SOUND WOULD COME TO BE KNOWN AS SOUL, AND NOBODY DID IT BETTER. BY TOM SINCLAIR

IT'S CRYING TIME, AGAIN. BROTHER RAY HAS LEFT US FOR GOOD. • RAY CHARLES, who died at his Beverly Hills home on June 10 of liver failure at age 73, was a genre-bending musical superhero whom fans and fellow musicians viewed with something approaching awe. After all, the man known as the Genius of Soul had a significant hand in inventing modern popular music. "Steve Winwood, Rod Stewart, Joe Cocker, Robert Plant—God knows how many singers have tried to sound like Ray Charles. Maybe more than Elvis," says Billy Joel, who recorded a duet, "Baby Grand," with Charles in 1986. "Musically, Ray was more important than Elvis." • Beginning in 1955, when Charles scored his first major hit, the rollicking "I've Got a Woman" (covered by Presley on the King's first

album), the then-25-year-old singer-pianist with the big, gruff voice regularly stunned listeners with a trademark sound that fused disparate styles into something exotic yet instantly accessible. For the next decade, song after song—the driving "What'd I Say (Parts I & II)," the jokey "Hit the Road Jack," the plaintive "Georgia on My Mind"—expanded the limits of what a pop tune could be. "He was the first to take the holy music and put the devil's word to it, coming up with the construct that was later to be called soul music," says former Atlantic Records exec Jerry Wexler, who worked with Charles on many of his greatest records. "He was the daddy, the inventor."

A 1961 Charles album carried the title *Genius + Soul = Jazz*, but really the equation was both more complex and much simpler than that. "He could go from blues to jazz to country to rock to gospel [in the same song]," says '60s soul legend Solomon Burke. Indeed, Charles was that rare musician who earned respect from both rock & rollers and the modern jazz crowd (not to mention those Grand Ole Opry types who snapped up copies of his seminal 1962 albums *Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music* Volumes 1 and 2). "It's a big loss," says longtime friend and collaborator Tony Bennett. "They're all dying out now, the Pearl Baileys, Duke Ellingtons, Count Basies. All these great performers are gone, and Ray is joining them. So heaven's going to have a great time up there with Ray Charles, believe me."

"Whenever I would see Ray, he'd always say, 'You look good,'" says Patti LaBelle. "And I would say, 'Oh, thank you. Yeah, I bet you *can* see me, brother man.'"

As influential as his records were, they only hinted at the power of his live act. Even as a septuagenarian, Charles was able to give performances of stunning intensity, whether pounding out a rocker or tinkling away at a ballad. Country singer Kenny Chesney remembers seeing Charles play at Willie Nelson's 70th birthday party last year. "Willie has seen *everything*," says Chesney. "If anybody has a reason to be jaded about music, it's Willie. So here is Ray Charles in front of him singing 'A Song for You,' and Willie is in tears. Ray moved a lot of people."

Politicians included. Charles died one day before Ronald Reagan was buried, so it was doubly apt that on the day of the President's funeral, many television stations chose to rerun Charles' performance of "America the Beautiful" (which he had played at Reagan's second inaugural gala in 1985). The song—which, though derided by some when Charles first released it as a single in 1972, now feels absolutely right and definitive—seemed the perfect musical elegy for these two American heroes.

And, really, does any artist better embody the great American dream of success against overwhelming odds than Charles? Born dirt-poor in 1930 to a single mother in Albany, Ga., Ray Charles Robinson (he would retire the surname in 1949 to avoid confusion with boxing champ Sugar Ray Robinson) watched his younger brother drown when he was 5. By the time he was 7, congenital juvenile glaucoma had rendered him completely sightless. He spent the next eight years at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, where he decided to become a professional musician. After his mother died suddenly of suspected food poisoning when he was 15, Charles left school to begin life as an itinerant piano player (at one point even managing to join an all-white country & western band). From 1945 through 1952, he scuffled on the so-called chitlin' circuit in Florida, Seattle, and Los Angeles. Finally, he signed to the fledgling Atlantic Records, for which he recorded many of his best-remembered sides (like the jubilant "Hallelujah I Love Her So" and his exuberant cover of Hank Snow's "I'm Movin' On"). Many of them he essentially produced himself—a privilege virtually unheard-of at the time.

Even more remarkable is that Charles was doing all this while suffering from a 17-year addiction to hard drugs. It's difficult to imagine the affable, grinning Charles of recent years as a junkie, but Keith Richards and Johnny Thunders had nothing on him. "We didn't know about it, but he was in the grip of a horrible heroin addiction when he made his greatest records for us," says Wexler. "How do you figure?" (With a doctor's help, he would kick dope cold turkey after he was arrested for possession in 1965.)

It's a wonder that Charles didn't, to quote one of his best-loved songs, drown in his own tears. Yet over the years, he maintained a formidable sense of mischief. (Not to mention guts: Who else would put out a song called "Let's Go Get Stoned" right after beating his drug habit?) Patti LaBelle laughingly recalls Charles' penchant for "touching women in the wrong places and getting away with it," saying she would kid him that she didn't believe he was really blind. "Whenever I would see Ray Charles, he would always say, 'You look good.' And I would say, 'Oh, thank you, Ray. Yeah, I bet you *can* see me, brother man.' That was just my little private in-joke with Ray Charles." (Speaking of jokes, there is a memorable

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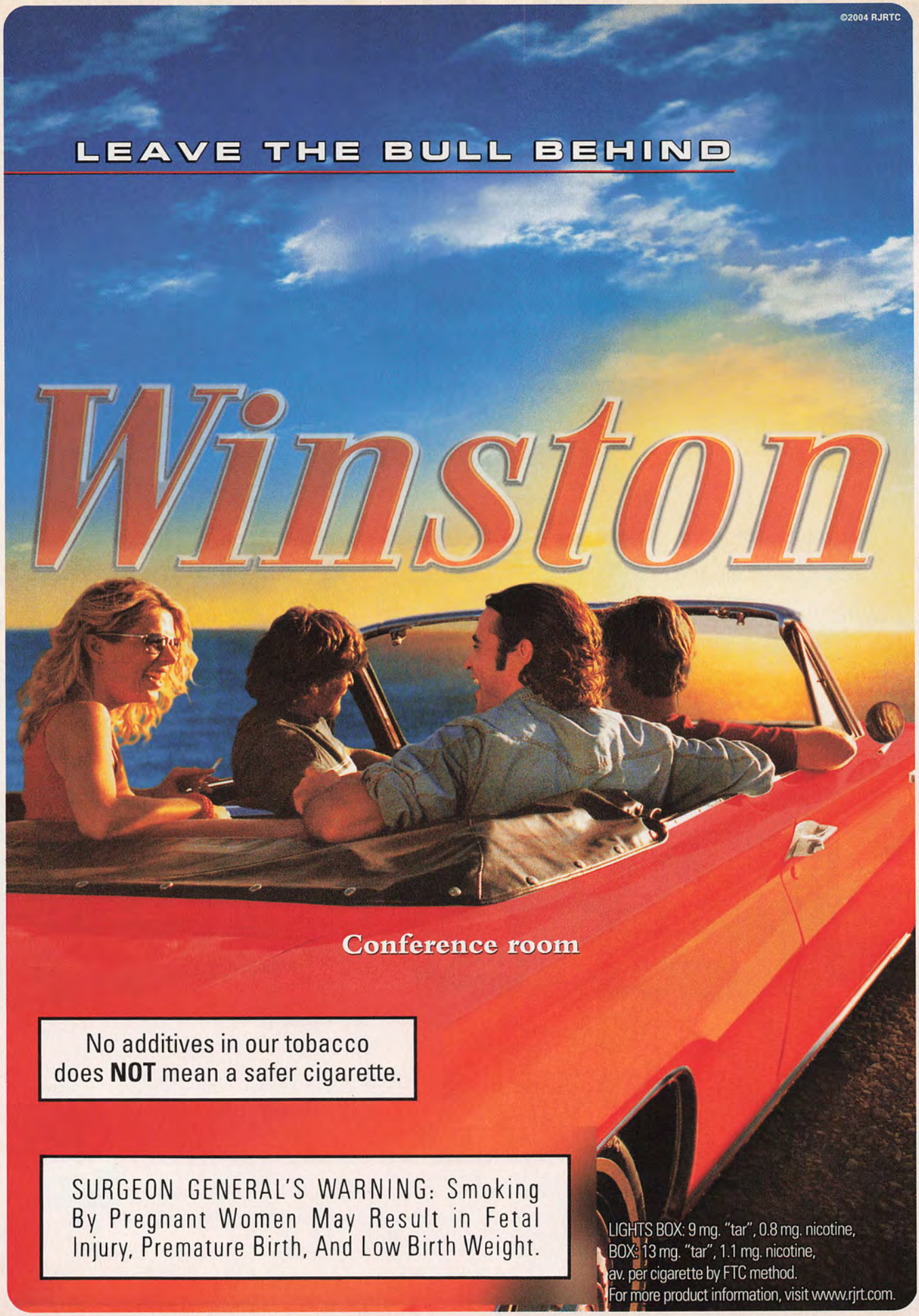
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maxim about the requirements for becoming a member of his female backup group, the Raelettes: "To become a Raelette, you have to let Ray"—a reference to the twice-married Charles' rep as a serial womanizer.)

Ironically, at the time of his death, Charles was poised to reenter public consciousness in a big way. In April, Concord Records announced that a new Charles album, his first new material in three years, would be released in August: *Genius Loves Company* is a celebratory affair featuring duets with Elton John, Diana Krall, Bonnie Raitt, Norah Jones, Willie Nelson, and others. Rhino Records is planning a new career-spanning 20-disc boxed set for 2005. And director Taylor Hackford (*The Devil's Advocate*) is readying a much-anticipated biopic, *Ray*, starring Jamie Foxx as Charles and slated to hit theaters in October.

Can this flurry of projects help Charles make a posthumous comeback? Perhaps, but for many longtime fans, the singer has rarely been far from their hearts. "Ray Charles never lost it," says Wexler. "Ray always made nonpareil, individualistic, idiosyncratic, beautiful, deep soul-funk music. And it was his own." ■ *(Additional reporting by Bob Cannon and Neil Drumming)*

Rays of Light

There are more than 150 titles in the Genius of Soul's catalog. Here's a look at where to begin.

The Genius of Ray Charles (Atlantic, 1959) On a striking early set that cushions the supple grit of his voice against lush-life strings and thundering horns (the latter courtesy of young arranger and lifelong friend Quincy Jones), Charles morphs into the black Sinatra, especially when overhauling a standard like "It Had to Be You." His near-definitive version of Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen's devotional "Come Rain or Come Shine" is astonishingly intimate; it sounds as if Charles and his honey of the moment were the only ones in the studio. B+

Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music (Rhino, 1962) An African-American jazz-R&B singer-pianist recording an entire album of covers of Nashville standards...and in 1962? The results could be awfully schmaltzy—someone gag that recurring lounge-Muzak backup choir!—but there's no denying the way this album rewrote the rules on what one was supposed to do, or not, in popular music. Too bad Hank Williams didn't live to hear the way Charles lent an even heavier sense of heartache to the Hank-associated "Half as Much." B+

The Best of Ray Charles: The Atlantic Years (Rhino, 1994) A key collection of the vivacious, self-confident blend of soul, big-band jazz, and gospel holler for which he was initially known. All of his '50s signature hits—the strutting "I've Got a Woman," the electric-piano vamp "What'd I Say (Part I)," the horny "(Night Time Is) The Right Time"—are here. Even at his most forlorn, on "Lonely Avenue" and "Drown in My Own Tears," Charles sounds down but never out, and the music conjures visions of juke-joint swing-blues performed in the swankiest club in town. A

Ultimate Hits Collection (Rhino, 1999) Covering three decades, this double-disc overview offers the broadest sampling of his career and is a must-own for its hefty chunk of his pivotal '60s work for ABC-Paramount. Fully unleashing the mixmaster within, Charles on ABC leapt from roadhouse R&B ("Hit the Road Jack," "Unchain My Heart") to even wilder country makeovers (the funkiest "You Are My Sunshine" you'll ever hear) to a 1972 rendition of "America the Beautiful" that evoked both the country's then-ravaged spirit and its eternal hopefulness. A —*David Browne*

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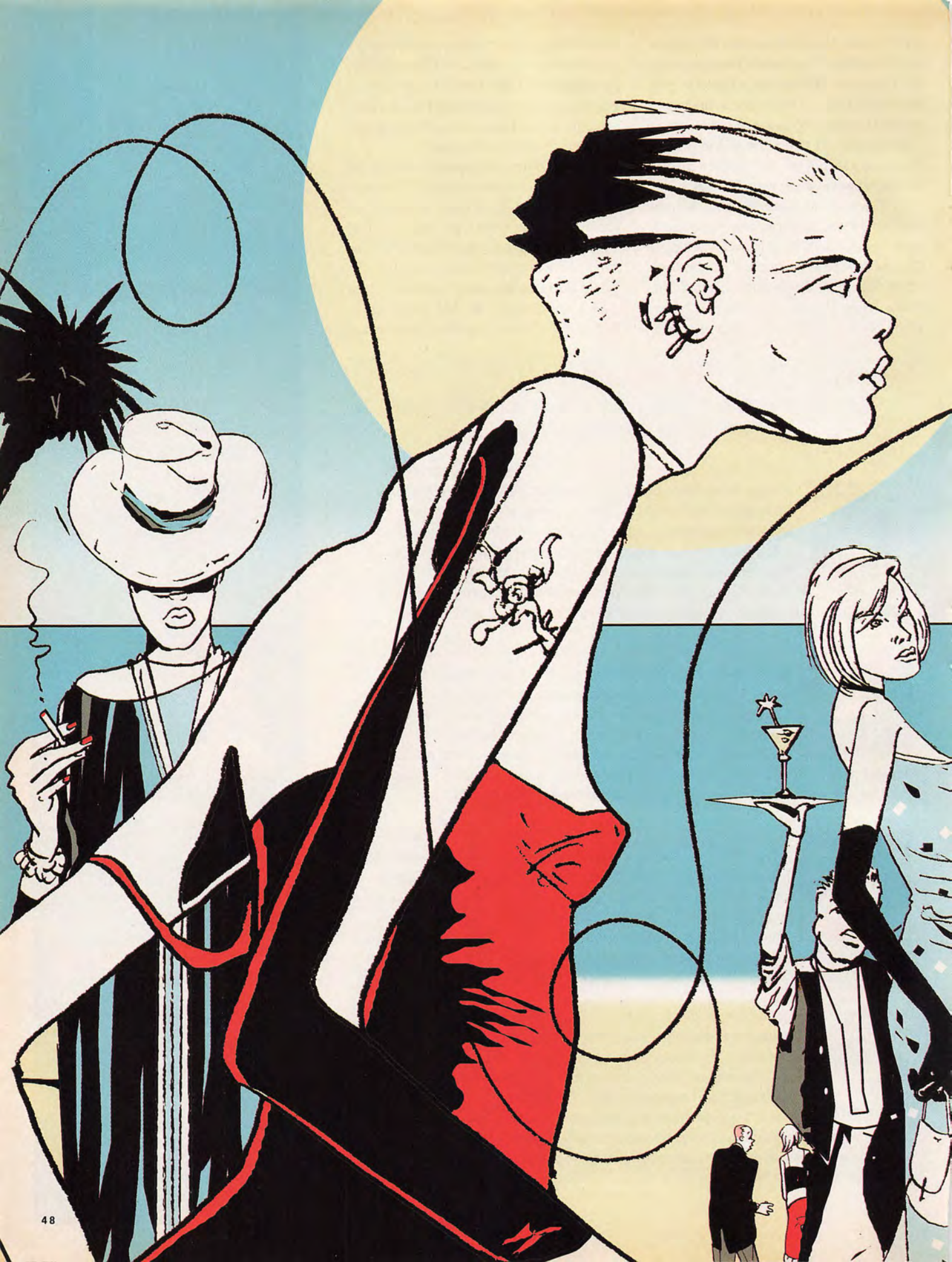

the must list

"It List" or "Must List"? In the end, It wasn't even close. There It was, our annual barometer of who was hot and happening *then*. It served us well for seven years, but still It could have been more. So much more. Then somebody—Who can remember? A great deal has happened—said "Must!" and we've never looked back. Must, as we've discovered from our weekly Must List, is passionate, compelling, demanding even. You Must listen to Green Day's *American Idiot* album. You Must acknowledge the genius of *SNL* survivor Will Ferrell. You Must bask in the glow of Mary-Louise Parker. Oh, and one more thing: We Must inform you that the Anointed listed on the following pages are in NO PARTICULAR ORDER. (Pardon the screaming caps, but we Must make this point clear to touchy celebrity handlers.) Semantics aside, the 2004 Must List is everything It wanted to be: smart, sexy, and reeking of power. So what's It to you now?

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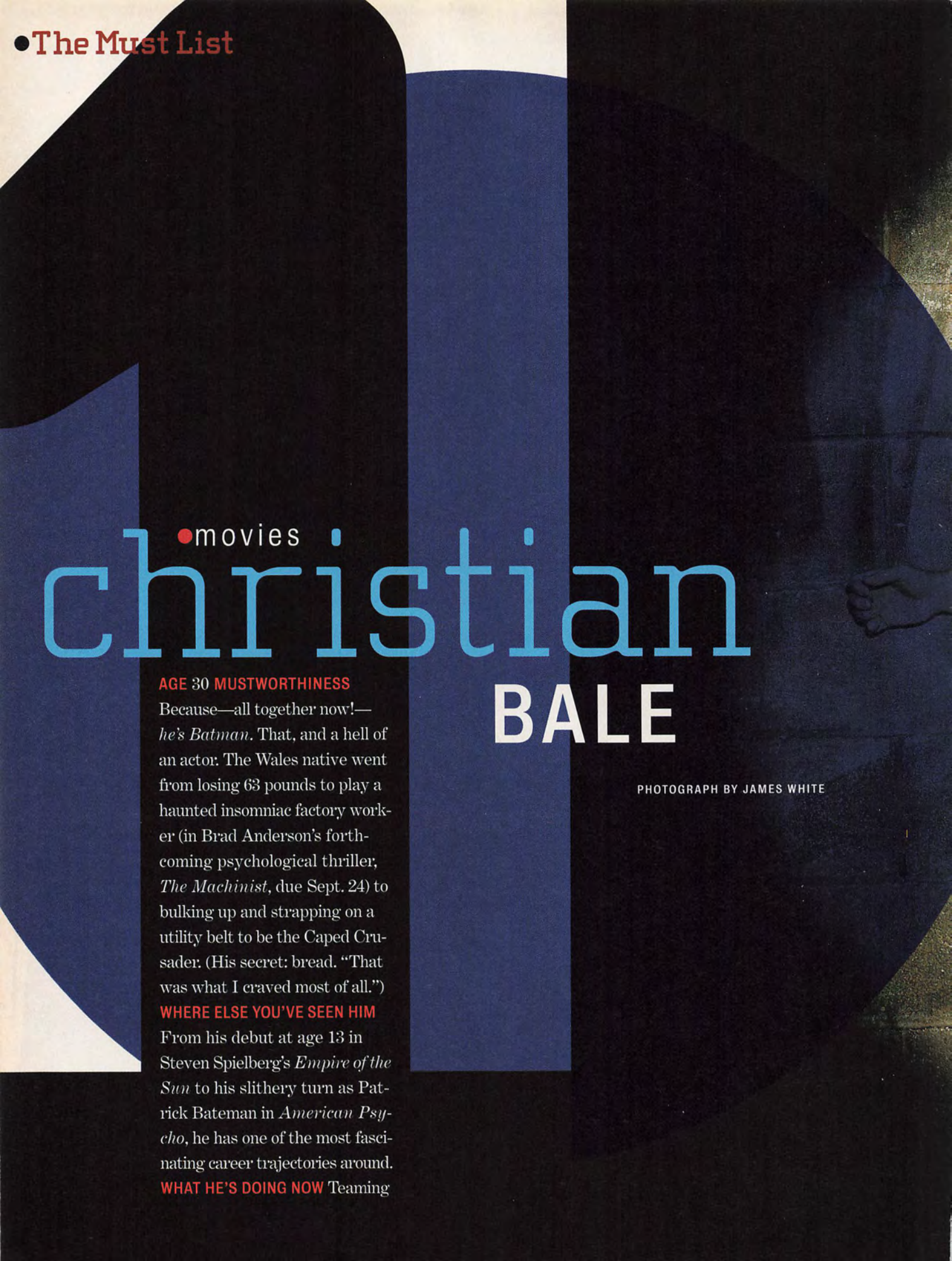

PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES WHITE

AGE 30 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Because—all together now!—*he's Batman*. That, and a hell of an actor. The Wales native went from losing 63 pounds to play a haunted insomniac factory worker (in Brad Anderson's forthcoming psychological thriller, *The Machinist*, due Sept. 24) to bulking up and strapping on a utility belt to be the Caped Crusader. (His secret: bread. "That was what I craved most of all.") **WHERE ELSE YOU'VE SEEN HIM** From his debut at age 13 in Steven Spielberg's *Empire of the Sun* to his slithery turn as Patrick Bateman in *American Psycho*, he has one of the most fascinating career trajectories around. **WHAT HE'S DOING NOW** Teaming

Batman Begins

with *Insomnia* director Christopher Nolan to do something no one has done before: rebooting a major film franchise only eight years after it petered out. The movie reintroduces one of the most beloved superheroes in the pop-culture canon, so look for explanations on everything from where the Batmobile came from, to how Bruce Wayne's parents died, to why he has such a close relationship with Lieutenant Gordon (Gary Oldman). "What attracted me was Chris and the knowledge that what was being aimed for was a reinvention of Batman lore," says Bale, taking a break halfway through shooting the film in London. **SO DID BALE TAKE THE ROLE BECAUSE HE'S A SUPERHERO FAN?** Not really. "I like *scary* movies. As a kid I liked to take walks in the woods at night after a scary movie to see if I'd get hairs standing up on the back of my neck." **OKAY, NOW THE DISH. HERE ARE FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT *BATMAN BEGINS***

This is the youngest Batman we've ever seen. "One of the reasons I cast Christian Bale is because we're dealing with an origin story," says Nolan. "The mission was presenting the psychological growth of Bruce Wayne from a young man into Batman." **We'll see some different villains.** With old staples like the Joker and the Riddler used up, Nolan went deeper into the lore. This time, the Dark Knight will tangle with the Scarecrow (Cillian Murphy)—who comic readers will remember as the demented scientist who spreads fear—and Ra's Al Ghul (Ken Watanabe), the ecoterrorist with delusions of grandeur. (Ain't that the worst kind?) **SOUNDS INTRIGUING. WHAT ELSE?**

The emphasis will be on the guy behind the mask. "[There will be] more of a focus on Bruce Wayne," says Bale. Adds Nolan: "He *is* the most realistic superhero in that he has no superpowers."

This will be the darkest Batman since Michael Keaton. The fact that Warner Bros. tapped the star of *American Psycho* and the director of *Memento* might have been a clue. "Batman's not a knight in shining armor, because of his personal need for revenge," Bale explains. "There's a great struggle within him not to enjoy what he does too much." **C'MON, HIT US WITH JUST ONE MORE**

There are no Bat nipples, no Bat S&M gear, no goofy Robin in this movie. "Oh, you mean the last two?" laughs Bale. "I'm not confirming or denying anything, but we *are* reinventing this." **HOW ABOUT SOME ADVICE FROM THE LAST BATMAN** "Early September in a Batsuit is a living hell," George Clooney told ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY. **AND FROM THE FIRST** "Here it is," says Adam West, from his Idaho home. "It's important to be very careful about your cape. Don't use it for sexual high jinks. It can get ugly. Trust me. Also, be careful when flushing. And, um, be mindful of the parking meters with the Batmobile. They're everywhere!" **BALE'S THOUGHTS ON WEST'S ADVICE** "It sounds like he's still *playing* Batman, doesn't it?"

The Machinist

PHOTOGRAPH BY GAVIN BOND

MARY-LOUISE parker

television • movies • stage

AGE 39 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The ethereal, witty, sounds-Southern-but-she-ain't, gay-friendly (rent *Longtime Companion* now!) Golden Globe and Tony winner straddles more genres than anyone on this list. And she improves everything she's a part of, including HBO's *Angels in America*, Broadway's *Proof*, and this year's interminable Golden Globes ceremony (when she thanked her newborn son for her own set of golden globes). **TONY OR GOLDEN GLOBE** "I'll take any trophy. I don't care what it says on it." **TOUCHED BY *ANGELS*** "I couldn't believe I got the part of Harper," Parker says. "When my agent and manager told me I was doing it, I actually got mad. *I actually got mad!* I was completely depressed because I didn't think there was any way in hell I would get it. It's the only part I wanted that badly that I actually got in my career." **ON HER MUST LIST** Kate Winslet: "She's gifted, and not showy" (we think so too—see No. 10); and Ellen DeGeneres: "She's cool, but there's nothing bitchy about her." ***SAVED* THE BEST FOR LAST** "Mandy Moore is like my new little sister," says Parker of her costar in *Saved!* and John Turturro's upcoming *Romance & Cigarettes.* **NEXT** The Lifetime movie *Miracle Run*; a revival of *Reckless* on Broadway in September.

The Must List

NAMES/AGES Melinda Clarke (Julie Cooper), 32; Tate Donovan (Jimmy Cooper), 40; Peter Gallagher (Sandy Cohen), 48; and Kelly Rowan (Kirsten Cohen), 37. **MUSTWORTHINESS** Forget those *90210* comparisons. These grown-ups have their own fistfights, love triangles, sexy outfits—and even teenage lovers. **SPEAKING OF MRS. ROBINSON** After the conniving Julie hooked up with her daughter's ex, Luke, "somebody said on the website, 'Luke and Julie is like Dylan and Cindy Walsh!'" Clarke says. "I'm like, 'Not even close, buddy.'" **MOMMY ISSUES** "What's interesting about [Kirsten] is she's trying to juggle being a mother and having a career. On TV, you're usually one or the other," says Rowan. "There's guilt because I'm not the perfect Carol Brady mom." **DADDY ISSUES** "My sister calls me regularly and is like, '[Jimmy] is the worst father I've ever seen,'" Donovan says. "I'm so neglectful. I'm so wrapped up in my own drama, I barely know my daughter is alive." **IT'S NOT TEEN SPIRIT** "Silly me, I never saw this as a teen drama," says Gallagher, best known for film work like *American Beauty*. "Boy, I'm as sharp as they come. It never occurred to me." **TYPE-CASTING** Clarke: "Originally they said Julie was 40 going on 16, plastic everything, tan skin becoming leathery.... Hopefully [that] wasn't why they cast me." **NEXT** Season 2 premieres Nov. 4.

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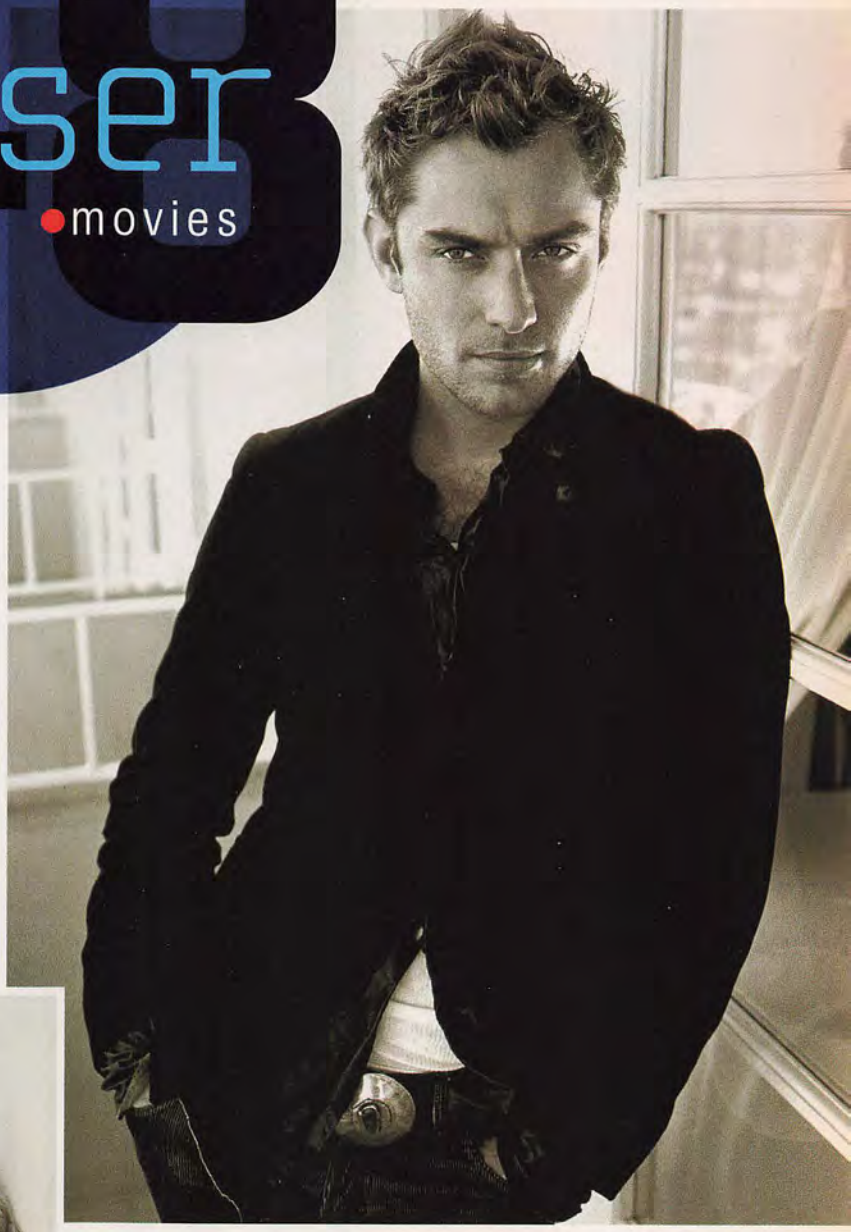
78 closer •movies

JULIA ROBERTS AGE 36
MUSTWORTHINESS The biggest female movie star in the world takes an unusually serious turn in December's *Closer*, Mike Nichols' adaptation of the Broadway play about four London residents (Roberts, Jude Law, Clive Owen, and Natalie Portman) tangled in a web of sex, love, and lies. "It's very reminiscent of *Carnal Knowledge* or *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Four people in a complicated situation where one minute this person's wrong, and the next minute, 'Oh wait! No, *this* person's wrong!'" CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND "There were times when I went home and I would be there for like an hour by myself and think, God, I feel melancholic! And you realize it is the residue of just a lot of conflicting things." BUT JUDE LIGHTENED THE MOOD "I felt a little bit like a bull in a china shop around him—he's so elegant and English, and I'm like, you know, this big, loud American girl!" ON HER MUST LIST U.K. band Turin Brakes and seeing Dave Matthews in concert. CAREER HIGH "Meeting Steven Soderbergh"—her director for *Erin Brockovich*, *Ocean's Eleven*, and *Full Frontal*. "And now getting on the Mike Nichols wagon. Like a devoted puppy, I will follow that man to the ends of the earth." NEXT Soderbergh's *Ocean's Twelve* in December. And twins, of course.



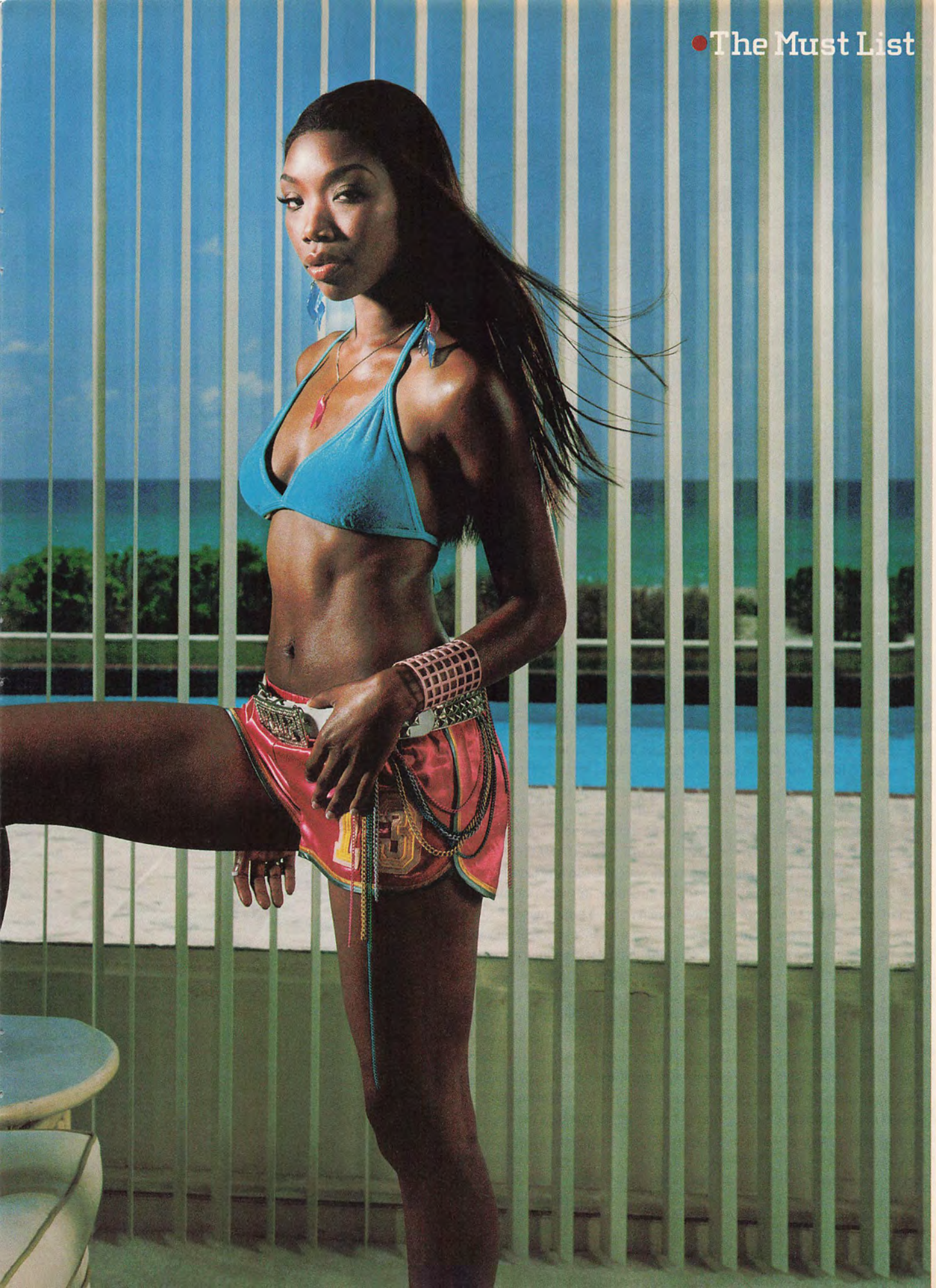
JUDE LAW AGE 31 MUSTWORTHINESS Easily taking the prize as 2004's Hardest-Working Man in Show Business, Law, with at least six movies due in the next year, still manages to be bloody charming—and look pretty good, too. In *Closer*, he forms one side of a love square for director Mike Nichols. "I play a sort of wannabe tragic writer, sort of like Fitzgerald, who kind of becomes the part that he's trying to write.... He's not a bundle of laughs!" GOD HELP THE QUEEN "We were shooting at [London's] Drury Lane Theatre, and our greenroom was in the royal box and royal antechambers. So we had a lot of fun living it up in the queen's chambers." ON JULIA CALLING HIM "ELEGANT" "Oh my God! That's hilarious! That's *hilarious*! I've never thought of myself as that." WORST JOB "I had to give out newspapers when I was a kid. Some company would deliver a huge stack and if I didn't get rid of them then I didn't get paid. So I ended up kind of dumping piles of them into canals!" NEXT *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* (Sept. 17), *The Aviator* (Dec. 17), and voicing Lemony Snicket in *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events* (Dec. 17).

music

brandy

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF RIEDEL

AGE 25 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The apple-cheeked Grammy-winning singer and mom (the birth of daughter Sy'rai was fodder for a 2002 reality show on MTV) releases her fourth album, *Afrodisiac*, on June 29. With an up-with-love message, some smokin' vocal gymnastics, and rhymin' from must-have producer Kanye West, the album's first single, "Talk About Our Love," has all the ingredients to become this summer's "Crazy In Love." Shake that, Beyoncé! **THE OTHER MUST-HAVE PRODUCER** After recording several tracks with ex-husband Robert Smith (the pair split last June), Brandy tapped the man with the Midas touch, producer Timbaland, who's made hits for Missy Elliott and Jay-Z, to give her album a hip-hop overhaul. "I heard myself on his tracks and I thought, 'This is it,'" she recalls. "[After that], the entire plan and path changed"—without any of Smith's tunes. **SAMPLE IRRESISTIBLE** Coldplay's "Clocks" for "Should I Go." Is Brandy a fan? "Yes! Their music just moves you. Yesterday I was doing a photo shoot and I turned on 'Clocks' and zoned out." **ON HER MUST LIST** "The new Usher record." **USHER ISN'T THE ONLY ONE CONFESSING** "On *Afrodisiac*, you really get to know me as a person and I'm not sugarcoating any of the lyrics. My fans will be able to connect to it because they'll know exactly what I've been through." **NEXT** The singer plans to tour this summer.



KATE WINSLET

movies 10

AGE 28 **MUSTWORTHINESS** She stole hearts as the rash romantic Clementine Kruczynski in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and will break them as a single mum whose four boys inspire the *Peter Pan* author in *J.M. Barrie's Neverland*, out in October. **PETER PANACEA** "Never growing up—what a wonderful concept. Wouldn't it be amazing to be a child all your life and fight with red Indians and fly through the air? How cool!" **WEIGHTY MATTERS** "There are times when I'm asked about the whole weight issue and I kind of yawn because I've been talking about it for so long now. But I don't really tire of it. I'm very respectful of this position I seem to have given myself." **ON HER MUST LIST** Meryl Streep. "I just think she's completely extraordinary and at the risk of sounding like a pathetic fan, I just have tremendous respect for her work." **AND ALSO** "I really want to see *Harry Potter*. My daughter keeps asking to see it, but she's only 3½ so I've said a very firm no." **MY HUSBAND, MY DIRECTOR** "[Sam Mendes and I] haven't made any plans to work together, but I'm sure we will at some stage. I have to say, I wouldn't be nervous at all; I would really just love it. I think we both would." **CAREER HIGH** Making *Eternal Sunshine*, because "it's a crazy, fantastic movie and Michel Gondry is a completely brilliant, brilliant director.... It's the type of movie that I would go see, and I don't know that I've felt that so strongly before." **NEXT** The mother of two (Mia and Joe, 5 months) just wrapped the "crazy, fantastic musical comedy" *Romance & Cigarettes* ("I play Tula, a hot, redheaded hussy who has an affair with James Gandolfini's character and is desperate for love") and will begin shooting Woody Allen's new movie in July.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAN WINTERS

11

MARK ruffalo

movies

AGE 36 **MUSTWORTHINESS** In just one month this spring, he wowed us with his versatility, starring as a memory-erasing techie in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and a lovesick pup in *13 Going on 30*. This summer, he plays good cop to Tom Cruise's hitman in *Collateral*, then dabbles in adultery in *We Don't Live Here Anymore*, an indie drama that he exec-produced. He has also stayed active in Page 93, the L.A. theater company he cofounded in 2000. All this less than three years after recovering from a brain tumor (a matter he prefers not to discuss). **ON HIS MUST LIST** Javier Bardem. "He's one of the most exciting actors around today, certainly of my generation." **CAREER HIGH** Right now. "All this work that's coming out at the same time— it's mind-boggling.... I've always been a little scared: Am I doing the right thing by not going for such high-profile things and following my heart? You never know what's going to pay off in the long run. So now, I'm just thrilled." **WORST JOB** "Oh, man, stringing guitars for a born-again Christian fanatic back in the '80s in L.A. He had no tolerance for anyone else's beliefs. I was there for like two years. It was an awful, awful job." **NEXT** *Sympathy for Delicious*, a film about a paraplegic Ruffalo has been developing since 1999 with his friend Christopher Thornton (himself a paraplegic). "The character's basically like a selfish son of a bitch [who] gets the gift to heal, and he can't heal himself."

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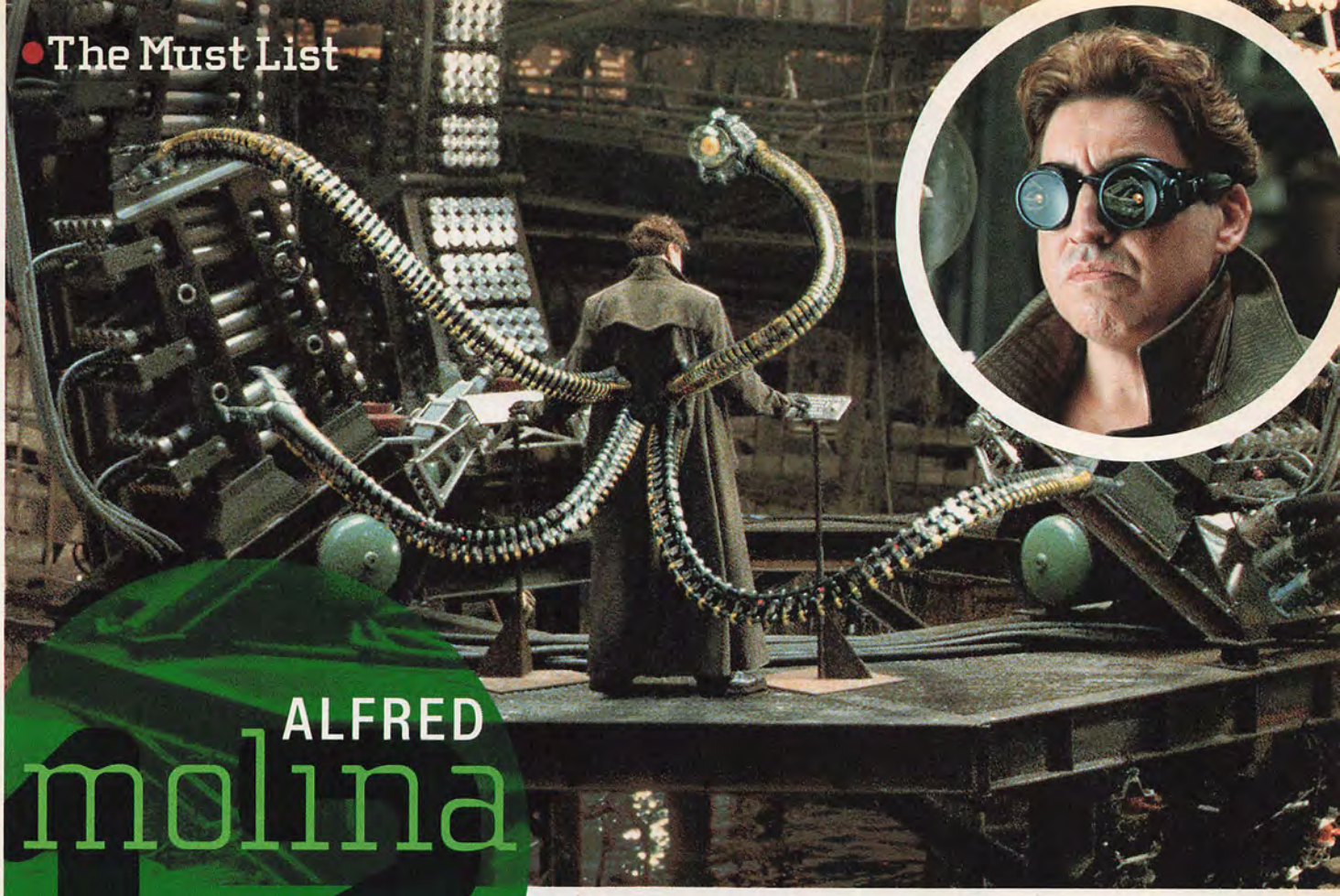

12 ALFRED molina

movies

AGE 51 **MUSTWORTHINESS** He's a chameleon character actor whose pure genius is propelling him up the A list, Kevin Spacey-style. This summer he's Doc Ock in *Spider-Man 2*, a Tony nominee for *Fiddler on the Roof*, and a scene-stealer in *Coffee and Cigarettes*. And—**HEY, ALFRED, YOU THROW ME THE IDOL, I THROW YOU THE WHIP!** "I used to get that on the street—a lot," says Molina, who made his film debut as Indy's tarantula-friendly tour guide in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. "Not so much now. Now people remember *Boogie Nights*"—another unforgettable turn we were just about to mention. He played the coked-out kingpin of the film's bloody climax. **BUT WHO IS ALFRED MOLINA?** A modern-day Anthony Quinn. Born in England to a Spanish father and an Italian mother, Molina played a Mexican in *Frida*, a Cuban in *The Perez Family*, an Iranian in *Not Without My Daughter*. "I've been an Arab, I've been Jewish, I've been German, Polish, English, American. I've never been, uh, an African, but then again, I doubt I'll ever be." **NEXT** Starring in July's long-shelved *Undertaking Betty* and speaking in Spanish in the Alfonso Cuarón-produced *Crónicas*.

13 TOBY LIGHTMAN

music

AGE 26 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Combine Alanis' introspection with Pink's attitude and you'll have this 5'1" spitfire of a singer-songwriter. Her freshman CD, *Little Things*, which spawned the jilted-lover hit "Devils and Angels," has reached the top 20 on *Billboard*'s Top Heatseekers chart. **DREAM DUET** "I just met Sheryl Crow a day ago. She was asking me if my album was already out. At the end I said, 'This is a really big moment for you...I mean *me*!' Please tell her I'm normal!" **WHOSE CAREER SHE'D LIKE TO HAVE** "Three Doors Down. They are so popular and so successful but nobody knows who they are!" **WHO'D PLAY HER IN THE MOVIE** "Gwyneth Paltrow. 'Cause she's blond. She's taller than me. We might have to cut her down a little bit." **NEXT** Finishing up a tour with Gavin DeGraw.

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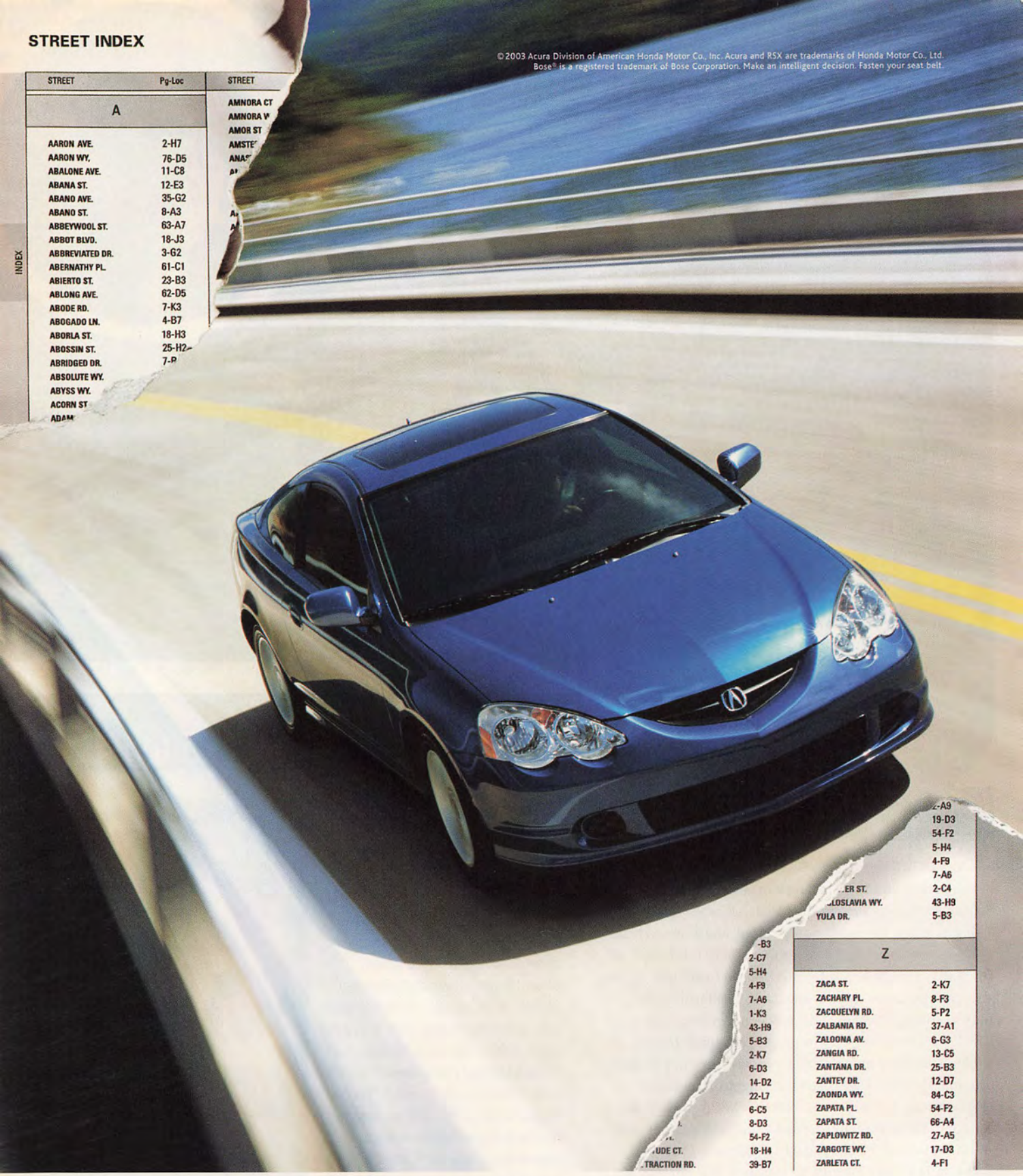

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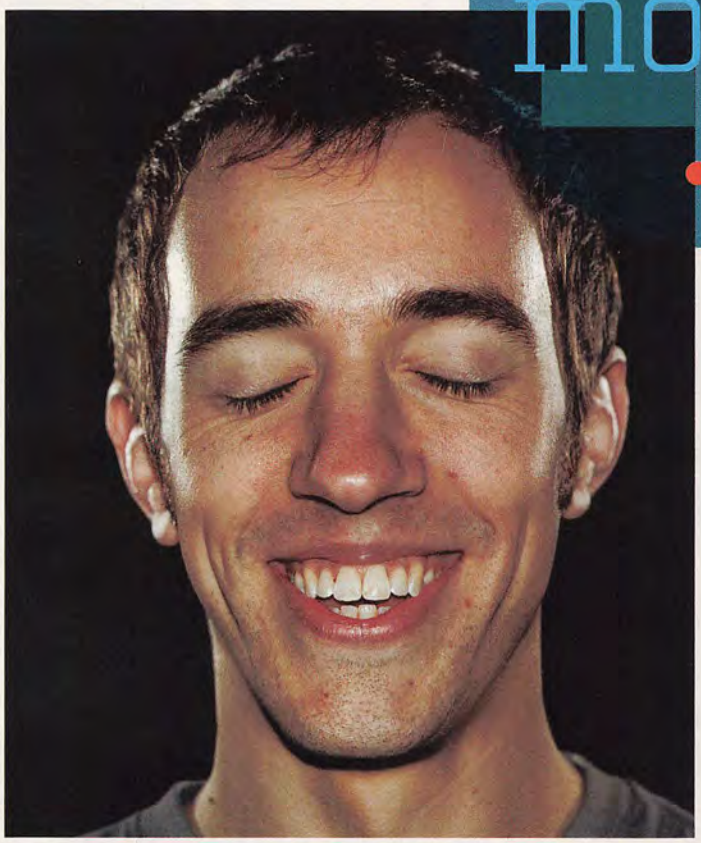
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN CLARK

14 MODEST mouse

music

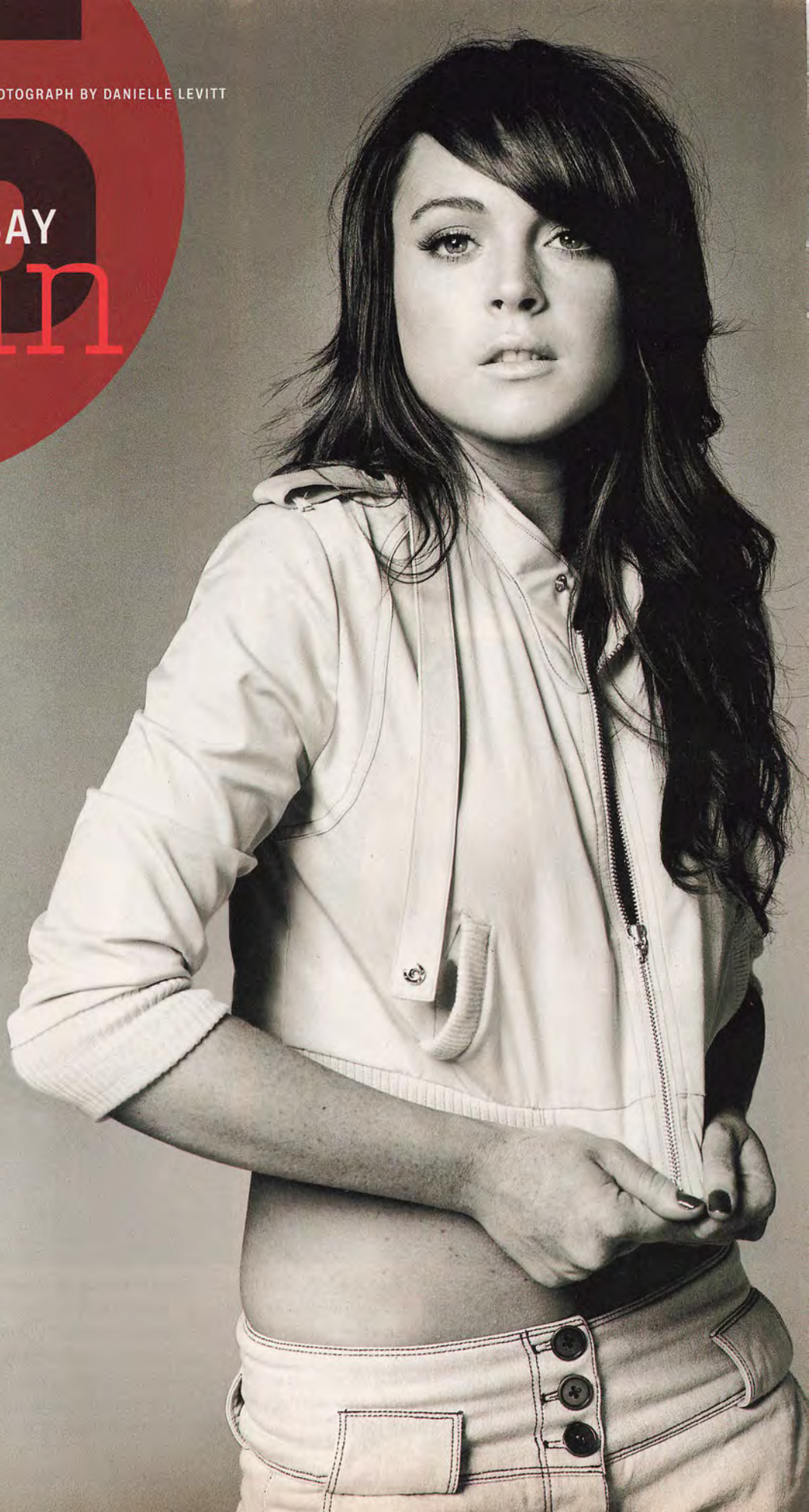


AGE 14 **MUSTWORTHINESS** After a slow, steady build, the indie-rock band has a hit single (the dreamy stop-and-go anthem "Float On"), a video on MTV, and critics—who can't get enough of the band's fourth album, *Good News for People Who Love Bad News*—tucked in its pocket. Why won't 28-year-old singer Isaac Brock (upper right) indulge in a little ego stroke? **HOW HE MAINTAINS MODESTY** "We started the band when we were teens," says Brock of the group, which also includes Eric Judy, Benjamin Weikel, and Dann Gallucci. "So, thankfully, it's too late to get bigheaded." **ON OUTSIDE SOURCES OF VALIDATION** "I'd be as happy if the new record sold 10 billion copies as I would if it sold zero copies. Okay, okay, there's a bit of bulls--- there. I'd be unhappy if it was a real stinkeroo." **EARLY INSPIRATION** "When I first started playing music, I would have been happy to sound just like the Pixies. Thank God I never pulled that off." **ON HIS MUST LIST** Anything by Tom Robbins. **NEXT** A slot on Lollapalooza starting July 14.

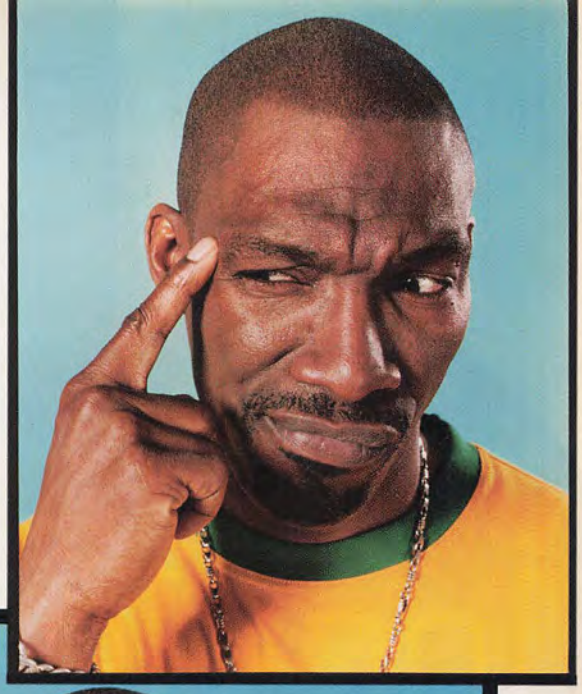
15 LINDSAY lohan

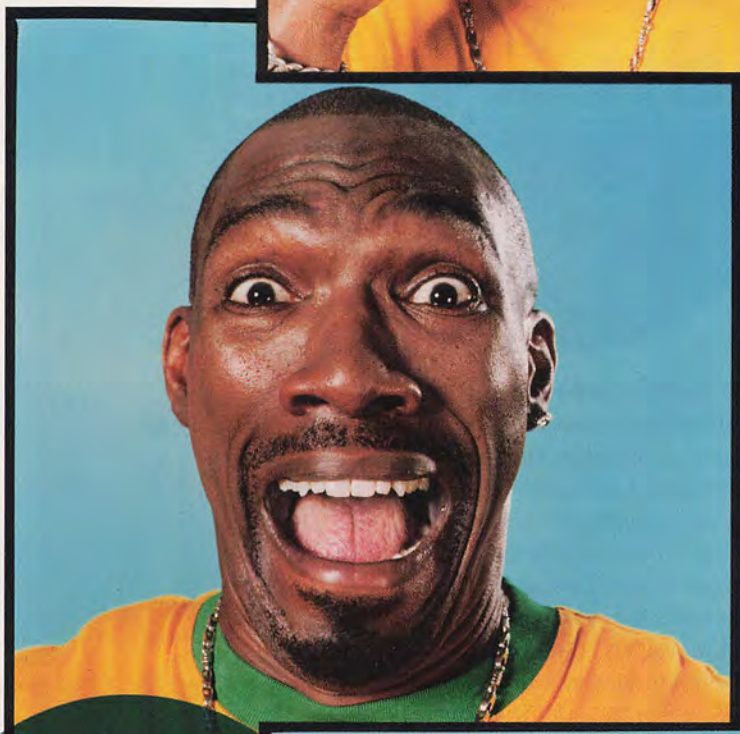
movies

PHOTOGRAPH BY DANIELLE LEVITT



AGE 17 **MUSTWORTHINESS** She served up unexpected humor, soul—and depth!—in *Freaky Friday* and *Mean Girls*. Plus, we *so* sided with her during the Hilary Duff feud. **ON HER MUST LIST** Jodie Foster. "She's amazing, and she's been through all of the phases that I'm going through. Someone told me that she saw *Freaky Friday*, and that made my day!" **WORST JOB** "I babysat my brother and sister, and it was the *worst* time ever because they would not stop fighting. I love being around them, but they were, like, *killing* each other! I ended up locking my sister out of the house for, like, two seconds." **BOOB JOB?** No! "I would *never* get implants, *ever*. I just got my chest in the past year, and I couldn't be happier because I used to be the flattest person ever, stuffing my bras. It scares me that older men would think about that, but hey, if they're going to write about anything, write about my boobs rather than making other stuff up. Maybe Jude Law will read the article!" (Lindsay, he might: See No. 8.) **SCHOOL TIES** "I wanna go to college. I think it's really important to have an education, but I've worked so hard for this full-time job, so I feel like I can't put it aside and take it for granted." If she did go academic, she'd study "entertainment law. 'Cause I could make sure my lawyers are kind of doing what they say they're doing." **NEXT** A third Disney remake: *Herbie: Fully Loaded*, featuring the famous *Love Bug*.



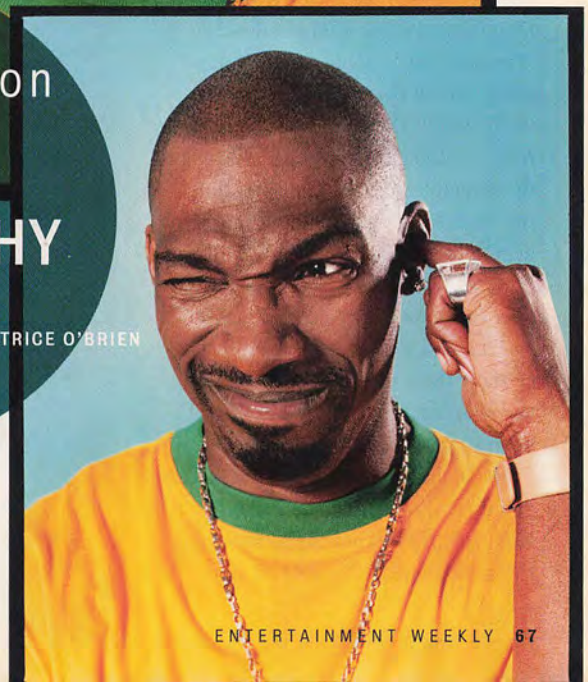


•television

charlie MURPHY

16

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIN PATRICE O'BRIEN

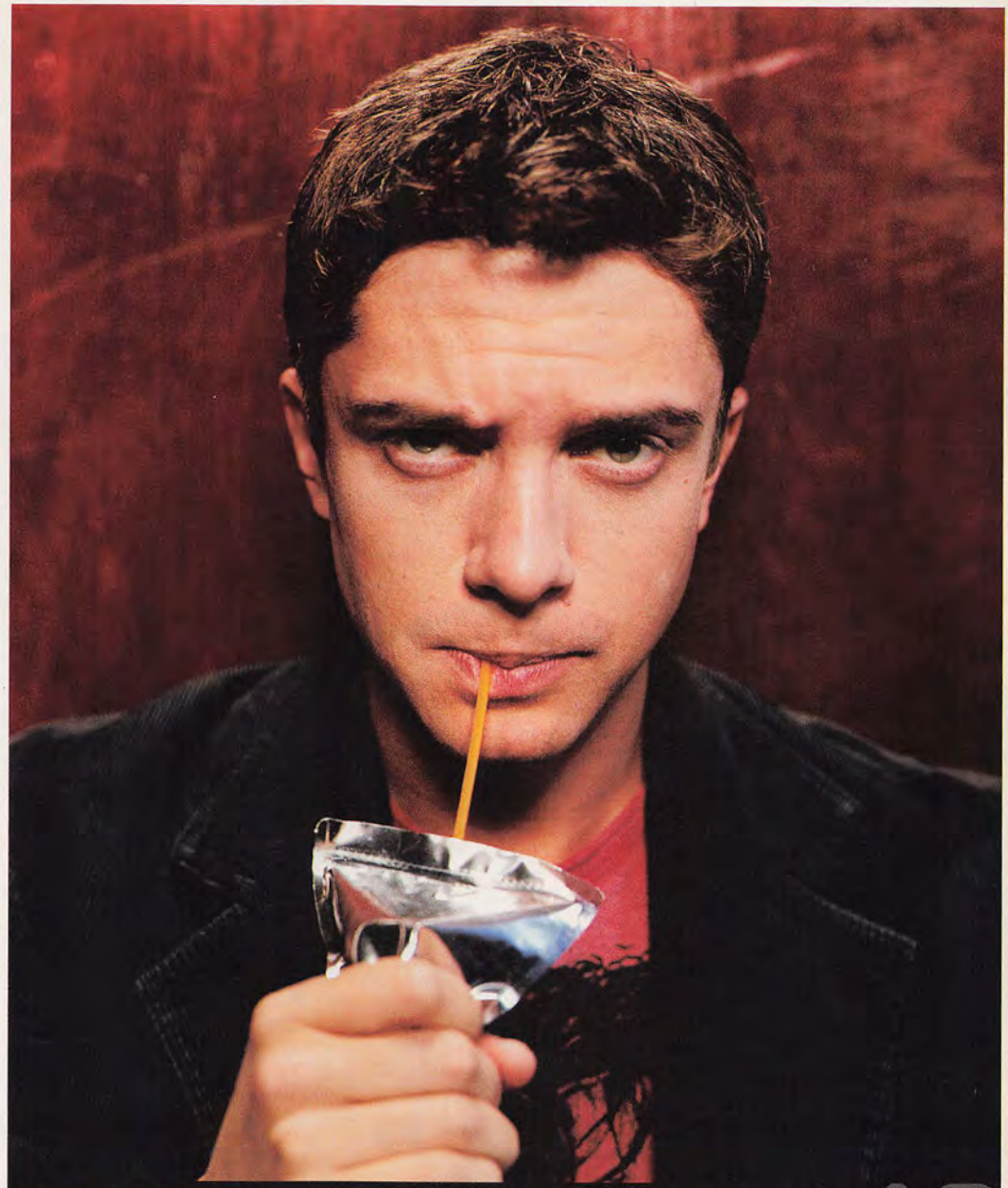


AGE 44 **MUSTWORTHINESS** After years in the shadow of little brother Eddie, the elder Murphy burst out with his "True Hollywood Stories" on Comedy Central's *Chappelle's Show*, putting his wry spin on his so-crazy-they-must-be-true celebrity encounters from his salad days. Because of the episode where he gets into a bitch-slapping spat with soul singer Rick James, there's an entire country, from Wall Street bankers to schoolkids, barking "I'm Rick James, bitch!" **AND HE'S EVERYWHERE...SERIOUSLY** "Rednecks like *Chappelle's Show*. Trailer parks tune in to the show. The projects tune in to the show. Old people. Prisons." **BUT DON'T GET TOO POPULAR** "You keep hearing rumors that network television will pick it up. To me, network television spells the end of the show." **EDDIE MURPHY'S BROTHER: 1986** "I was Eddie's stunt double on *The Golden Child*," recalls Murphy. "They were like, 'You're going to run into that wall full speed. But just before you hit, you're going to spin around and hit on your back.'... I did it like 10 times. The next day, you talk about hurting! I never did another stunt again." **EDDIE MURPHY'S BROTHER: 2004** "My brother called and said, 'I'm writing a movie, I want you to come and help me write it.'... A week later, he called me back and said, 'Steven Spielberg read the script [*Death Do Us Part*]. He bought it.'" **ON HIS MUST LIST** "I watch classic black-and-white films. It's a lot of those films that I want to remake. The story is there—it's incredible. And I want to retell them." **NEXT** Murphy plays a kidnapper in *King's Ransom*, starring *Scary Movie 3*'s Anthony Anderson.

17 HEATHER locklear

television

AGE 42 **MUSTWORTHINESS** She's the ultimate guilty pleasure. She's got a wicked sense of humor. And without all of her bitches, ballbusters, and babes, there would hardly have been any reason to watch TV for most of the past three decades. Now, after a too-long two-year hiatus from series life, she returns with NBC's *LAX* this fall as the hottest thing ever to hit a tarmac. **ON HER MUST LIST** *Dumb and Dumber* and *Gone With the Wind*. "I'm sure Clark Gable wouldn't mind being behind *Dumb and Dumber*." **CAREER HIGH** Doing *Saturday Night Live*. "Nothing can top coming through those double doors as the host. It's the most terrifying and fun thing I've ever done." ***MELROSE PLACE*'S WARDROBE VS. *LAX*'S** "Since I'm on the tarmac, it's more of a jeans and jacket and flat shoes thing." **YEAH...SURE IT IS** "I know there will be letters wanting the shortest skirts possible. But it's been 10 years since *Melrose Place*. I have cellulite, people!" **NEXT** *LAX* debuts early fall, and she'll play Hilary Duff's mother in the upcoming romantic comedy *The Perfect Man*.



TOPHER GRACE

Photograph by Alex Hoerner

●movies ●television 18

AGE 25 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Instead of becoming gossip-page fodder or a sitcom casualty (see remaining *That '70s Show* cast), Grace has wisely chosen projects that will keep him employed in Hollywood long after that TV contract expires next year. **MEMORY LAPSE** At one point this year, Grace was shooting *P.S.* (a May-December romance at a university, opening Oct. 15), finishing *Win a Date With Tad Hamilton!*, and taping *'70s Show*. "It's the most tired I've ever been in my life. There were a couple of moments on *'70s* when there was this long silence and I'd look around and go, 'Someone is so busted for forgetting a line,' and then, 'Uh-oh, I guess it's me.'" **WIN A DATE WITH TOPHER GRACE** "I lost my on-screen virginity to Laura Linney [in *P.S.*]. I had to go to her trailer and—I don't think I've asked this question to a woman since ninth grade—say 'Would you mind if I did this?'" **ON HIS MUST LIST** *The Grey Album*. "Some DJ [Danger Mouse, see No. 20] illegally mixed the White Album and *The Black Album*. It's basically the worst Beatles album and the best Jay-Z album you'll ever hear." **WORST JOB** "Suncoast Video at the Stamford [Conn.] mall. They played the same movie for two months. I've seen *Space Jam* 300 times." **NEXT** Season 7 of *'70s Show*, the Weitz brothers' *Synergy*, and a cameo in *Ocean's Twelve*. "I play me as a real a--hole."

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The Must List

AGE 22 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Look into those soulful blue eyes and it's clear why *One Tree Hill*, in which Murray plays brooding basketball star Lucas Scott, became a sleeper hit during its first season on The WB. (Behold the buying power of lusty teenage girls!) **ON HIS MUST LIST** Sean Penn. "The artist that any actor could and should want to be. He's never given a weak performance." **AND ALSO** "Dude, *The Simpsons*! Hell, yeah! They basically say what everybody's afraid to say, but they portray it in a kind way instead of being cruel about it." **ON THE SERIES' UP-*HILL* BATTLE** "When the first few weeks of ratings came out, I laughed—hard. As cheesy as it might sound, I always called us 'The Little Show That Could.' We aren't big or flashy or high-concept, but we have a lot of heart." **WHY HE'S PARTIAL TO McDONALD'S** "I got jumped in a Burger King when I was 18 and had my nose put on the other side of my face. It was three guys—what the hell was I supposed to do? The doctors didn't even bother running X-rays. They just reset it. But it wasn't a nose job—I *hate* the fact that people say it was a nose job!" **NEXT** *A Cinderella Story* (opposite Hilary Duff) in July; filming a remake of *House of Wax* with *24*'s Elisha Cuthbert and Paris Hilton in Australia ("The cranberry juice here is f---ing awesome!"); *One Tree Hill*'s second season in September.

19 CHAD MICHAEL murray

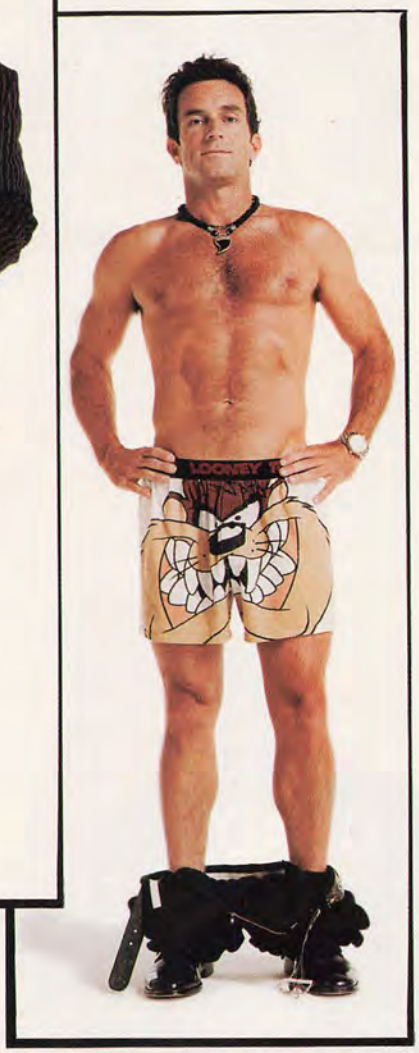
television

PHOTOGRAPH BY PHIL SHEATHER

20 danger mouse (a.k.a. brian burton)

music

AGE 26 **MUSTWORTHINESS** How many other DJs have the sonic brilliance to produce a killer hip-hop disc (*Ghetto Pop Life*, featuring Brooklyn's MC Jemini) and a freaky underground sensation (*The Grey Album*, a madcap fusion of the Beatles' White Album and Jay-Z's *The Black Album*), and still have the sense of humor to rock shows in a mouse costume? **BECOMING A MOUSEKETEER** "When I was doing the DJ name thing, I was like, Okay: BBC cartoon character, cool name, not too serious, most people will have no idea." **ON HIS MUST LIST** "I'm a huge Woody Allen fan. And I'm always listening to a ton of stuff in the hip-hop world—but it's like naming your friends, you are always going to forget one." **WORST JOB** "Lessee...I was a lifeguard in a really bad neighborhood in Decatur, Georgia. Little kids running around telling you the rules they were going to break and you'd just be like, 'Okay!' 'Cause if you didn't they'd be like, 'I'll go back to my house and git my s--- *right now*!" **NEXT** A project for Cartoon Network's Adult Swim with MF Doom; touring with Lollapalooza.



21. television

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIN PATRICE O'BRIEN

DONALD TRUMP AGE 58 MUSTWORTHINESS He's become the most unlikely face—and hairstyle—to rule prime-time TV, courtesy of *The Apprentice*. BIGGEST MISCONCEPTION ABOUT HIM "I think *The Apprentice* has solved the misconception. Everybody thinks I'm a much nicer guy than they used to—from watching me fire people! So imagine how bad my image must have been before." HOW HE'D DO AS A CONTESTANT ON HIS OWN SHOW "I don't think I'd do well, because I'm not sure I have the patience." NEXT Season 2 of *The Apprentice*. **MARK BURNETT** AGE 43 MUSTWORTHINESS For creating two of the most critically and commercially successful unscripted entries, *Survivor* and *The Apprentice*. WHAT HE LOVES MOST ABOUT REALITY TV "The unpredictability. If you're watching *CSI*, Bill Petersen won't be killed—he's on the billboard. But Rupert? Well, he might be gone next week." HOW HE'D DO AS A CONTESTANT ON HIS OWN SHOWS "On *Survivor* I would do great in the jungle, but I am very outspoken, so I would have trouble stepping back. I think I'd do much better at *The Apprentice*, because I love that kind of pressure." NEXT His first scripted show, the sitcom *Commando Nanny*, premieres this fall on The WB. **JEFF PROBST** AGE 41 MUSTWORTHINESS He's kept uppity contestants in check for eight seasons on *Survivor*. (And who knew he had that rockin' bod?) WHAT HE LOVES MOST ABOUT HIS JOB "I always wanted to be a lawyer, and I ended up with a job in TV that's kind of like a lawyer. You're at a trial, you're cornering people, and you're trying to get them to say what you want them to say." ...AND HATES "The travel. If we could do it in my backyard, I could roll outta bed, go out on my deck, and say, 'Survivors, ready—go!' It would be just golden." HOW HE'D DO AS A CONTESTANT ON HIS OWN SHOW "I play to win, and I don't like other people making decisions for me. It's tough to win when you play that way. But I'd sacrifice myself in the game to get Burnett voted off." NEXT Season 9 of *Survivor*; a follow-up to his directorial debut, *Finder's Fee*.

22. reaB MEN

•books

24 persepolis 2

MUSTWORTHINESS Artist-writer Marjane Satrapi, 34, follows her debut about growing up in Iran during the Islamic revolution—heralded as the most relevant comic-book memoir since Holocaust masterpiece *Maus*—with an equally witty graphic novel (out Aug. 31) about her stoner school years in Europe and feisty return to her homeland. HER *MAUS* PROBLEM "I called [author Art Spiegelman] to apologize—to tell him that it's not me who is comparing myself to him. I said, 'If I were you, I would hate me.' That's the way we became friends." NEXT *Embroideries*, in which a group of women sip tea and talk about sex; directing an animated *Persepolis* for early '07.

ifp
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25 reese WITHERSPOON

movies

AGE 28 MUSTWORTHINESS She could have spent the rest of her career portraying adorable fashionistas—see *Sweet Home Alabama* and *Legally Blonde*. Instead, Witherspoon will star as 19th-century temptress Becky Sharp in Mira Nair's very original adaptation of the Thackeray classic *Vanity Fair*. As for summer vacation: She's spending it in her native Tennessee, playing beloved crooner June Carter Cash in the Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line*. ON HER MUST LIST "I always, always wanted to be Dolly Parton ever since I was 6 years old." ATTENTION, CASTING AGENTS "I'm desperate to do a scary movie. I watched *Seven* over and over. I love M. Night Shyamalan. I'm so excited to see *The Village*." (So are we; see No. 102.) "I just love to be scared. For me that's the only time I can really forget I'm watching a movie." NEXT *Vanity Fair* opens Sept. 1.

26 dig!

movies

MUSTWORTHINESS The electric Sundance Grand Jury Prize-winning rockumentary explores the friendship—and bitter rivalry—between two indie rock musicians: Anton Newcombe, self-destructive frontman for the Brian Jonestown Massacre, and the more even-tempered (and far more famous) Courtney Taylor of the Dandy Warhols. *DIG!* ER, CUT! Director Ondi Timoner, 30, filmed the bands from 1996 to 2003, and ended up with nearly 1,500 hours of footage. "Let's just say my new favorite letters are *D*, *V*, and *D*," says Timoner. NEXT *DIG!* hits theaters in October and the Sundance Channel in early November.

LORD OF THE RINGS 27

dvd

MUSTWORTHINESS The three-hour, 20-minute final installment of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy earned 11 Oscars and more than $377 million—but that's not enough for director Peter Jackson. His four-disc cut hits stores in time for Christmas, complete with 49 minutes of extra footage and 300 new F/X shots. WHAT'S ON IT New scenes include the Nazgûl king facing down Gandalf in battle, the Mouth of Sauron taunting the Fellowship at the gates of Mordor, and Aragorn tending to Éowyn in the Houses of Healing. The most anticipated addition is Gandalf's final confrontation with Saruman, a controversial last-minute cut from the film. The bonus materials will also bring the production narrative to a close, with extensive making-of featurettes. NEXT "As far as we know, Peter has nothing else up his sleeve," says New Line Home Entertainment VP Mike Mulvihill. "But he's a DVD fan, and you never know what he may have hidden away."

28 zach braff

Photograph by Alex Hoerner

television
movies

AGE 29 MUSTWORTHINESS The *Scrubs* star has gone from sutures to features: He wrote, directed, and starred in *Garden State* (opening July 30), a quirky, touching comedy that spurred one of the biggest bidding wars at this year's Sundance festival. WHEN HE REALIZED HE WAS A CELEBRITY In a drugstore during *Scrubs*' first season: "When you're in line to buy cough medicine in the middle of the night and some guy is trying to get you to autograph his box of condoms, that's when you realize your life's gonna be a little bit different." NEXT Cowriting an adaptation of the children's book *Andrew Henry's Meadow* with his brother Adam. Then, season 4 of NBC's *Scrubs*.

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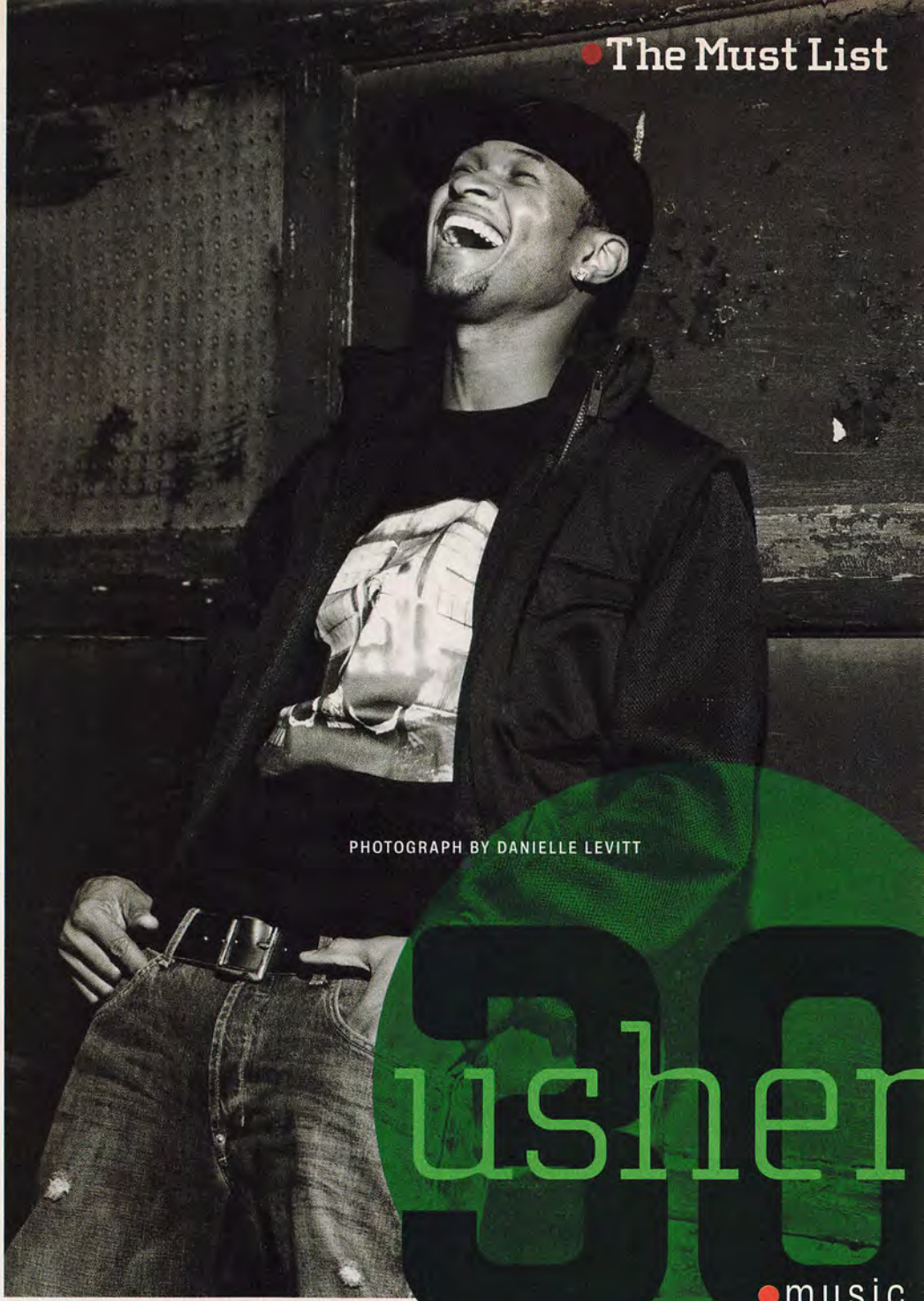
POPULAR 29 • dvd

AGE 5 **MUSTWORTHINESS** For two gloriously nasty years ('99–01), The WB aired the campiest, most vicious look at high school in TV history. (*Square Pegs* is *Nightline* in comparison.) The first season of *Nip/Tuck* creator Ryan Murphy's outlandish series—set at Jacqueline Kennedy High School—claws its way to DVD on Sept. 21. **WHAT'S ON IT** The set will include a gag reel, outtakes, cast commentary, and deleted scenes—including an extended version of Lily and Carmen's same-sex kiss. "It was wildly truncated," sighs Murphy. **ON ITS CANCELLATION** Two days after mapping out season 3, Murphy learned *Popular* had been axed: "The WB moved the show to Friday nights, but our audience was out at the gay bars." **SO HOW WAS IT GONNA END** "They would have graduated and we would have shown a black screen that said, 'Five Years Later.' They were all going to be living in a *Melrose Place*–like development with Mary Cherry [a psycho cheerleader, played by *What I Like About You*'s Leslie Grossman] as their slumlord." **NEXT** A season 2 disc is in the works, and Murphy says that if The WB wants a reunion, the entire cast is game.



PHOTOGRAPH BY DANIELLE LEVITT

30 usher • music

AGE 25 **MUSTWORTHINESS** After steadily building a career on slick dance moves and even slicker R&B singles, the Chattanooga-born crooner finally claimed pop ubiquity this year by teaming with Lil Jon and Ludacris for the irresistible "Yeah!" (Of course, his paparazzi-pleasing breakup with TLC's Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas didn't exactly dim the limelight.) His fourth album, *Confessions*, sold more than one million copies in its first week—the most ever by an R&B artist—and has gone platinum four times. **ON HIS MUST LIST** Jackie Wilson. "There was Jackie Wilson before there was Elvis Presley." **HIS REAL FEELINGS ABOUT JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** "It's weird as hell to know that I'm possibly going to be on the same label as him. I feel like the guy is very smart, [but] I hate when [people] try to compare us.... He's pop. I'm R&B, man. I create what pop is. He's falling victim to what pop is. Not to say that's a bad thing." **OR TO PARAPHRASE MUHAMMAD ALI** "I'm prettier, I'm faster, I'm stronger. I'm Ali, baby. They say Justin was live, but I'll take him in five." **NEXT** His U.S. tour with Kanye West starts in August.

31 THE secret MACHINES

●music

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHIAS CLAMER

AGE 4 **MUSTWORTHINESS** *Now Here Is Nowhere*, the major-label debut from the New York City-by-way-of-Dallas trio—which includes Brandon Curtis (lead singer, keyboard, bass), Benjamin Curtis (guitar), and Josh Garza (drums)—sounds like a mad-scientist mash-up of Pink Floyd, Radiohead, and My Bloody Valentine. **FLASH DANCE** "The blinking lights in the 'Sad and Lonely' video are programmed lights that [are] flashing phrases and song lyrics in braille," says 32-year-old frontman Brandon. "It looks really cool—kind of like the *Close Encounters* thing.... No girls in bikinis, though, so you'll never see us on *TRL*." **CAREER HIGH** "We just played this great place in Cincinnati," says Brandon. "It's an old iron factory–turned–art gallery. We played in this big, cavernous room that captured all this reverb.... It was brutally loud." **NEXT** The band plans to headline several U.S. dates through the end of July.

BRYCE DALLAS HOWARD

Photograph by Sheryl Nields

movies 32

AGE 23 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Growing up, the oldest of director Ron Howard's four kids popped up as an extra in her dad's movies, starting with *Parenthood* when she was 7. Now, with a much-buzzed-about debut in M. Night Shyamalan's latest spooker, *The Village* (opening July 30), she's stepping into the spotlight. **JOINING THE FAMILY BUSINESS** For years, Howard kept her interest in acting on the down low. "I was extremely defensive about any assumptions anyone would make about me," she says. "People would say, 'Oh, do you want to be an actor like your daddy?' and I'd say, 'No, I want to be a forensic anthropologist!' " **PAPA, DON'T PREACH** Dad has spent his entire life in show business, but until recently his daughter had no interest in hearing his advice. "I'd sort of been this a--hole child that was like, 'Well, what do *you* know?' But he has a tremendous amount of wisdom when it comes to this profession. It's shocking to me!" **ON HER MUST LIST** "Dorothy Parker. There's something about her writing that's so sexy. And Audrey Hepburn—she's plastered everywhere about my apartment." **NEXT** Assuming Nicole Kidman's role in Lars von Trier's *Dogville* sequel, *Manderlay*.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GAVIN BOND

37 without a trace

CAST

● television

NAMES/AGES Enrique Murciano, 30; Poppy Montgomery, 29 ("Although IMDb says that I'm 32. At the end of the day, who gives a s---? Honestly"); Anthony LaPaglia, 45; Marianne Jean-Baptiste, 37; and Eric Close, 37. **MUSTWORTHINESS** *CSI* gets all the ink, but we'll trust our lives to this pack of smart, gutsy FBI agents, led by the multi-award-winning LaPaglia. The CBS missing-person identity thriller finished last season at No. 12. **PLUS, THEY'RE SO COOL** LaPaglia: "I listen to everything from Gershwin to 50 Cent." **OR NOT** Murciano: "I was so addicted to *The A-Team*." **OKAY, REALLY NOT** Close: "Who's OutKast?" **CAREER HIGHS** Montgomery notes her turn as Marilyn Monroe in CBS' *Blonde*. For LaPaglia, it was his Tony-winning role in *A View From the Bridge*. And Jean-Baptiste? An Oscar nod for *Secrets & Lies*. "I've been chasing the dragon ever since." **SO WHY DO TV?** "If you look at what's on television, it's some of the best stuff cinematically: *The Sopranos*, *Six Feet Under*, *Deadwood*...," says LaPaglia. "And I don't want to work for scale, not when they're spending $150 million on a film." **AND IT BEATS THEIR OLD GIGS** The rest of the cast suffered the usual grinds (bartending, retail, Wendy's ads), but LaPaglia paid heavy dues. "My first job in show business. They were doing auditions for a cereal commercial, and they wanted to see how the actors ate on camera.... My job was to hold the spit bucket." **ON THEIR MUST LISTS** Close gives *Whale Rider*'s Keisha Castle-Hughes a thumbs-up, while Montgomery listens to Damien Rice, and Jean-Baptiste is waiting for Anita Baker. "She needs to make an album, baby." Murciano, meanwhile, shows some love for Caetano Veloso. "I listen to that man and I wanna have sex, cook, and raise giraffes at the same time!" **NEXT** Season 3 of *Trace* plus movie work: *Winter Solstice* for LaPaglia, and the indie thriller *Between*, shooting in Mexico, for Montgomery. Murciano is currently shooting *Miss Congeniality 2*. Jean-Baptiste, a film scorer, is returning to the recording studio.

JULIE ROBERTS 38

● music

AGE 25 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Roberts' self-titled debut answers the question "What if Faith Hill made a country album again?" Except you need to imagine a much bluesier Hill; Roberts' weathered-sounding soulfulness is at odds with her innocent demeanor. "When I sing, I'm not Julie," says the small-town South Carolinian. "I become somebody else for those three minutes, and most of the time it's my mom. A lot of the stories in these songs, she's lived." **OFFICE UP THE TRUTH** Roberts worked for Mercury Nashville for three years, including a stint as the assistant to CEO Luke Lewis—but never told him she was a singer. ("I didn't want to get fired!") When producer Brent Rowan played her demos for her boss, Lewis took a shine to the anonymous singer, only to find she was right outside his door. **NEXT** A CMT special airs this month.

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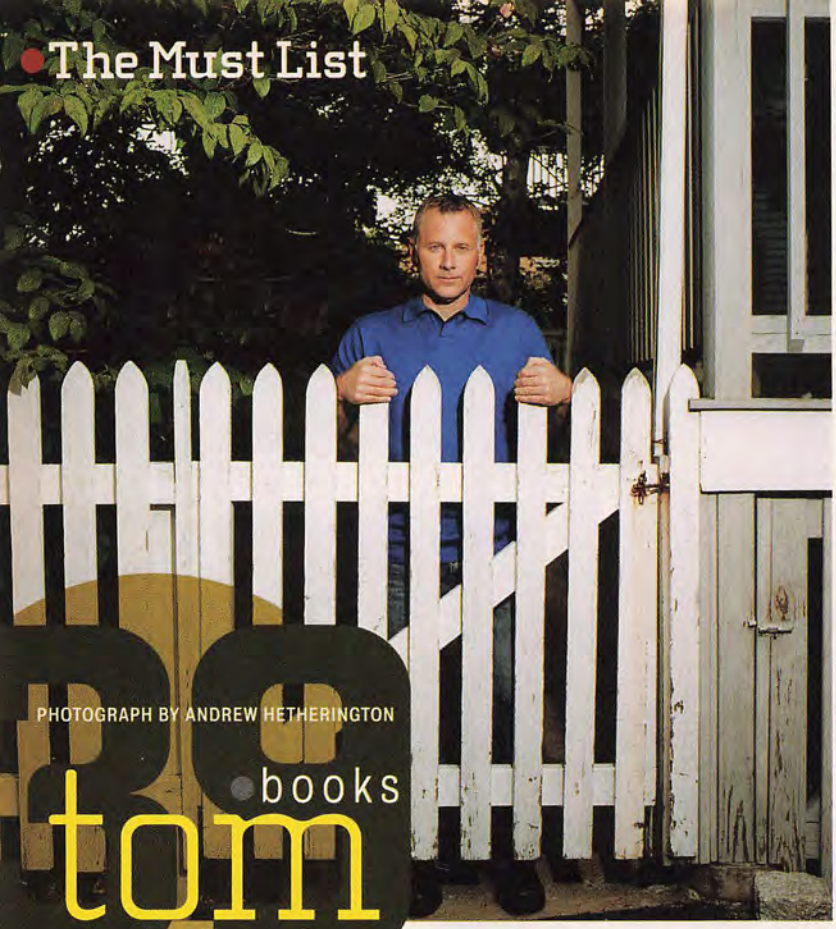

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW HETHERINGTON

38 books tom PERROTTA

AGE 42 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The author of *Election* and *Joe College* has seen his best-ever reviews—and sales—with *Little Children*, his bitingly hysterical exploration of bored young suburban parents and the child molester who disrupts their lives. **ON HIS MUST LIST** "*Our Kind* by Kate Walbert. It's narrated by this group of women in their 60s and 70s. They're very moving and beautifully written stories about a vanishing breed of person." **AND ALSO** "Fountains of Wayne. I just think *Welcome Interstate Managers* is still the album of the year, even if 'Stacy's Mom' got tired for people." **CAREER HIGH** "Boy, it's gotta be the reception of *Little Children*. I had gotten used to a certain small audience and I expected to keep moving incrementally forward, and instead there was this quantum leap." **WORST JOB** "I was a garbageman in New Jersey in summers during college at Yale. Everybody else got to go to Switzerland and I got to go to the dump." **BUT HE REALLY WANTS TO BE COURTENEY COX** "I have actual dreams of Bruce Springsteen calling me up on stage to wear a bandanna and play rhythm guitar next to Little Steven." **NEXT** Working on a *Little Children* screenplay with Todd Field (*In the Bedroom*).

40 FREAKS AND GEEKS dvd

MUSTWORTHINESS Although NBC's critically beloved drama about high school underdogs circa 1980 was canceled circa 2000 after one season, creator Paul Feig and exec producer Judd Apatow cared enough about *Freaks*' cult following to create the ultimate treasure: a limited-edition eight-disc set—available only on *freaksandgeeks.com* for $120—that includes all 18 episodes, commentaries galore, outtakes, auditions (Linda Cardellini as...*Kim Kelly*?), a bonus script, and a Q&A. It even comes in a McKinley High yearbook full of photos and inscriptions. **WHY SO MUCH STUFF?** "Look, we're big nerds," says Feig. "I love collectible stuff. And let's give fans something that down the line they can sell and make some money." **HIGH SCHOOL CONFIDENTIAL** Fans, TV execs, and McKinley teachers (in character!) join in the dishing. As for reuniting the actors, "it was fun to throw everyone together and watch them laugh and fight," says Apatow. "They actually argue on the commentaries. Listen to 'Tricks and Treats.'" **YEARBOOK MEMORIES** "I wanted it to look like something from 1980," says Feig. "The design guys were like, 'Everything you're trying to get us to do is stuff we spent years trying to stop doing.' It's like, 'I know, but it's gotta look kinda s---ty.'" **NEXT** Two books of *Freaks* scripts and a soundtrack.

41–42 regis philbin & kelly ripa television

AGES 72, 33; as a team: 3 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Toward the end of the long national nightmare that was Kathie Lee, Regis Philbin used to explode with pent-up frustration during the show's opening host chat. Since Kelly Ripa arrived, those first 15 minutes—in which Regis vents about his precious Notre Dame football and tells you what premiere he and wife Joy attended the previous night—have become an exhilarating free-for-all. **DADDY DEAREST** Kelly has perfected some mojo combo of spunky, sexy, and maternal: "Hold still, Big Daddy," she cooed while removing a nasty splinter from Regis' thumb. It was, no kidding, electrifying TV. **ONE FOR THE AGES** Ripa is impudent, unafraid; Regis is a broadcasting master: "When you were in high school, I was here *inventing* [morning talk shows]!" he has bellowed. Together, they are the invincible team Regis wishes Notre Dame were.

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43 the n

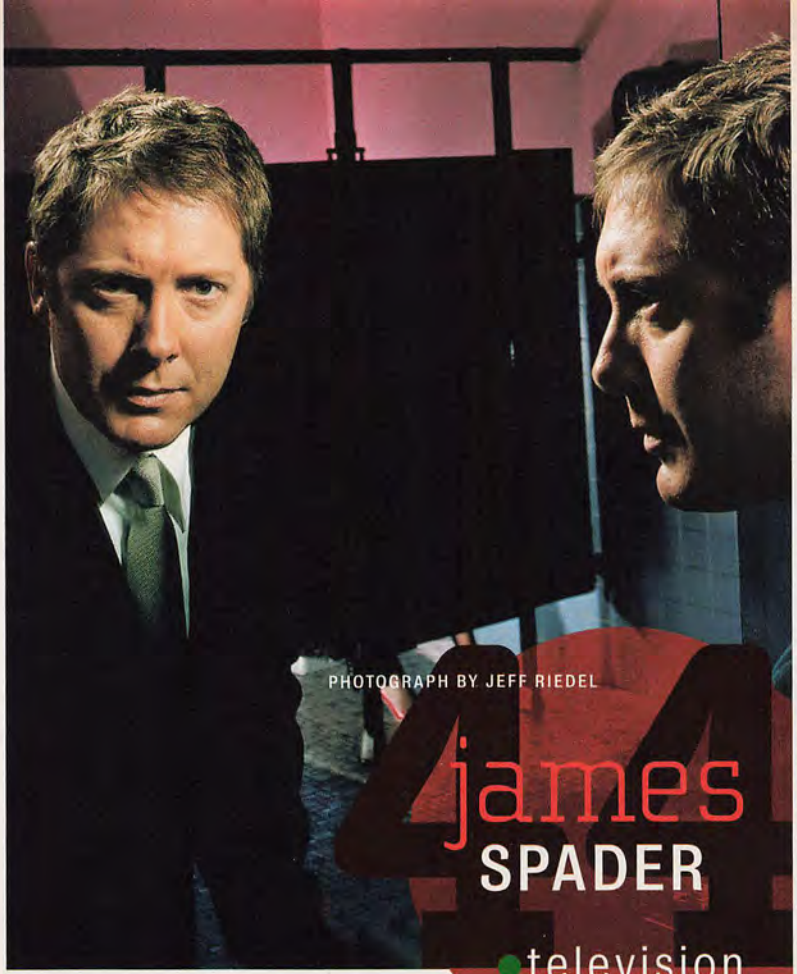
television

AGE 2 MUSTWORTHINESS Nickelodeon's teen-targeted offspring takes us back to our angstiest years (in a good way) with its signature series, *Degrassi: The Next Generation*; its soapy reality show, *Girls V. Boys*; and reruns of *Daria* and *My So-Called Life*. Thankfully, the channel switches over to preschooler fare during the day or we'd never leave our rooms. CLAIM TO FAME *Degrassi* is by far The N's most popular show, and for good reason: The spin-off of the '80s high school drama had been interweaving parents' (the original characters grown up!) and kids' plotlines long before *The O.C.* "All the actors in the show are within a year of the characters' ages," says Sarah Tomassi Lindman, VP of programming. "There are kids with bad skin. And they're not all decked out in designer clothing." NEXT *Girls V. Boys: Hawaii* and animated *O'Grady* (about a high school plagued by supernatural phenomena); seasons 3 and 4 of *Degrassi* in the summer and fall.

JOE MANTELLO 45

stage

AGE 41 MUSTWORTHINESS What do two of Broadway's most buzzworthy but dissimilar shows—audience pleaser *Wicked* and critics' darling *Assassins*—have in common? Director Mantello (*Take Me Out*), who just won his second consecutive Tony for helming *Assassins*. MURDER, HE WROTE "It's *Assassins*, not *Puppies and Kittens*, so a portion of the audience is not gonna go with it," says Mantello of the Sondheim show, which features Lee Harvey Oswald, John Hinckley, and others crooning. "If you read reviews of the original [1991] production, it was accused of being unpatriotic. But the world caught up. The reasons it caught up are tragic." CAREER HIGH "Working as an actor in *Angels in America*." It was such a high, he went out on it—to focus exclusively on directing. NEXT A revival of *Glengarry Glen Ross*.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF RIEDEL

44 james SPADER

television

AGE 44 MUSTWORTHINESS *The Practice* would have received the death sentence if it weren't for a last-minute stay of execution by Spader, whose portrayal of smug attorney Alan Shore allowed the eight-year-old drama to retire gracefully. ON HIS MORALLY AMBIGUOUS ALTER EGO "Anything you can qualify as Alan's best trait would be his worst under different circumstances. Something that might be amusing is at the same moment completely inappropriate or appalling." CAREER HIGH "I was leaving the dentist and my father called and left a message. He was listening to some country & western station and heard that a film I was in [*sex, lies, and videotape*] won an award at Cannes. It was fun hearing that news from him." WORST JOB "Working in a small record shop in New York. I thought I could get a small discount. Turns out the owner and his wife had rather virulent cocaine habits, so all the profits went to that. And they didn't have any records I wanted to buy." IF HE WEREN'T ACTING... "Well, I hope I wouldn't be working at that record shop." ON HIS MUST LIST Bob Dylan and French Iron Chef Hiroyuki Sakai. AND ALSO "Liquids, food, and sex." NEXT A *Practice* spin-off, *Fleet Street*, costarring William Shatner.

style 46-73

OPEN THE FLAPS ON THE NEXT PAGES FOR OUR MUST STYLE PICKS

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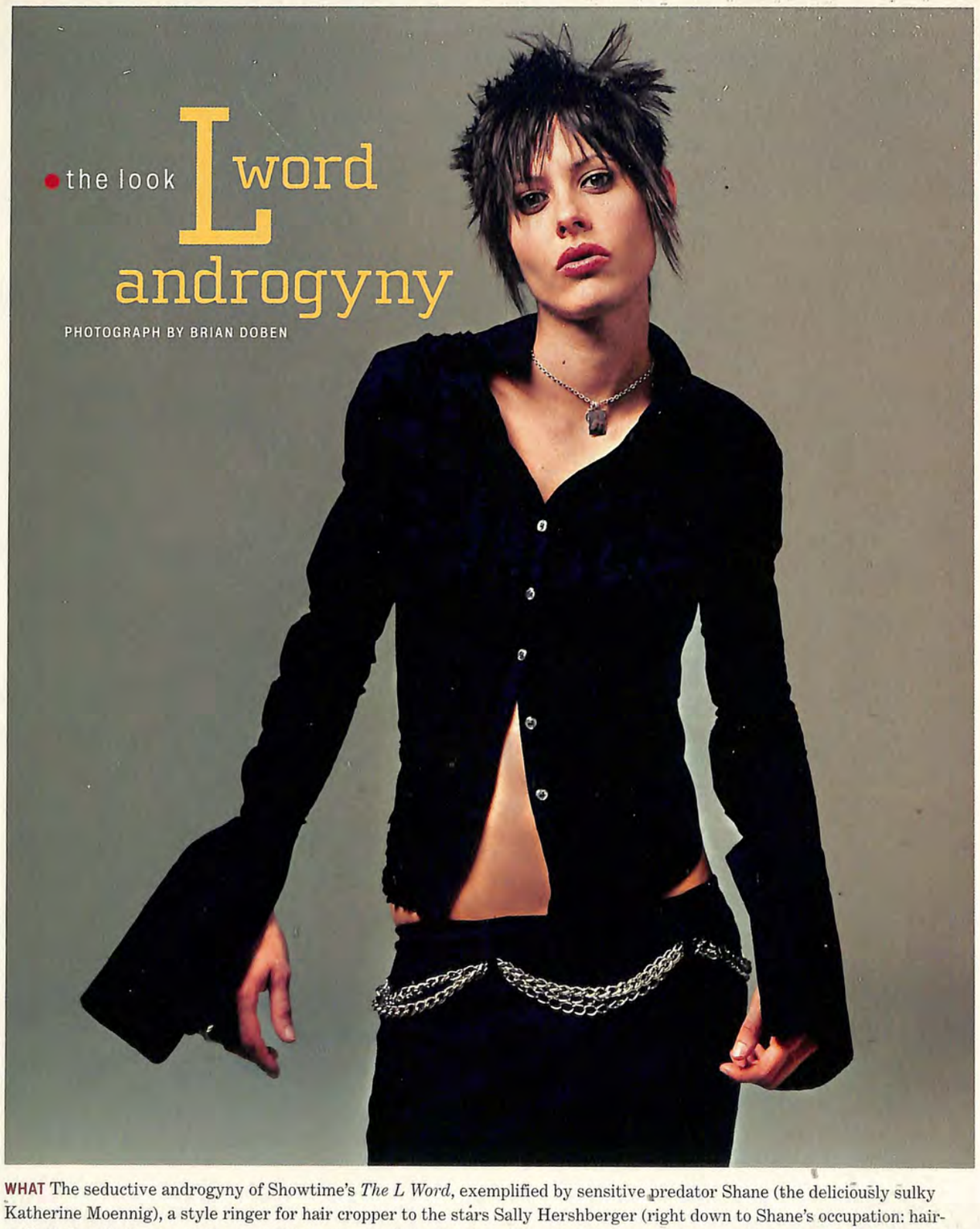
must Style

THE PEOPLE AND THINGS THAT MAKE US HOT

the look L word androgyny

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRIAN DOBEN



WHAT The seductive androgyny of Showtime's *The L Word*, exemplified by sensitive predator Shane (the deliciously sulky Katherine Moennig), a style ringer for hair cropper to the stars Sally Hershberger (right down to Shane's occupation: hairstylist). But that's crazy talk, according to creator Ilene Chaiken: "I know Sally, and she is not Sally." **ROLE MODELS** "Shane's meant to look thrown together, just out of bed with no care," says Moennig, who, much like a hairstylist, recently chopped her own hair into a punkier 'do. The first season's influences were "Keith and Mick, late '60s, and a little Iggy Pop. This year it's the Strokes meet Patti Smith. Shane is definitely the slumlord of the group." **J. CREW PUNK'D** "Last season there was more leather, which we're staying away from in season 2 [February '05]," says stylist Ilaria Urbinati. "It's much more village hipster with a preppy edge. So ripped jeans mixed with a preppy sweater vest and a studded belt and Converse sneakers. The whole Johnny Depp vibe." Featured designers will include Marc by Marc Jacobs, Costume National, Theory blazers, pieces from Defacto Deathcamp, vintage from Lo-Fi in L.A. "Katherine turned me on to Yanuk jeans, which she'll be wearing a lot." **WHY WE LOVE THE LOOK** "The characters are sexy, but there's no over-the-top sexuality," says Urbinati. "Nothing is tacky."

the collectible movie dolls

WHAT THEY AREN'T *Matrix* or *Hellboy* figurines that sci-fi nerds cream over in musty comic-book stores. **WHAT THEY ARE** Playthings for discerning film fans (okay, geeks), like *Ghost World* slackerette Enid (pink-, green-, or black-haired), an *Adaptation* figure set (above right; Charlie is the sweaty one), and Medicom's line of limited-edition Kubrick minifigures from films like *Reservoir Dogs*. We're also partial to Dark Horse's homage to '50s cheesecake queen Bettie Page, complete with photo studio and leering photog (below; *darkhorse.com*). **TURNING JAPANESE** Most of these figurines are made in Japan. "Asia's way ahead on the retro-cool thing for toys," says Giant Robot owner Eric Nakamura (*giantrobot.com*), who counts Matt Groening as a fan. "If you're into design and packaging, that's what makes [them] cutting edge."

the body fusionized

WHAT Longer, leaner, harder bodies. Think Uma, not Oprah. **THE RECIPE** Pilates, yoga, and dance fused into one efficient workout. **WHERE** New Yorkers swear by Exhale spa's Core Fusion class. In L.A., it's all about All the Right Moves at Equinox (a favorite of comic Sarah Silverman). "People who were spinning and weight-training told me they hated their bodies," says Moves creator Grace Lazenby (above; see *rightmoves.com* for video info). "This is about getting long and lean quickly." **THE NEXT GENERATION** Kappel LeRoy Clarke's more aerobic Frē Flō Dō, a "Launchpad"-based (think treadmill) fancy-footwork and mental-focus workout that makes you sweat like Albert Brooks in *Broadcast News* (available only at Equinox NYC, 19th Street, it will likely go national in '05; see *freflodo.com*).

the label a bathing ape

WHAT A supertrendy clothing line designed by Japanese artist Nigo (right; pronounced Knee-go). His heavily coveted limited-edition T-shirts, sneakers, sweatshirts, jackets, and bags feature a simian theme. **PRIMARY INFLUENCE** *Planet of the Apes*; the clothing line's motto: "Ape Shall Never Kill Ape." (Nigo is one of the world's top five collectors of *Planet of the Apes* memorabilia.) **FAMOUS FANS** The Beastie Boys, James Lavelle (Mo' Wax Records' founder), and N.E.R.D.'s Pharrell Williams (left), who wears Ape almost exclusively. **DOES THIS GUY SLEEP?** Nigo drummed in Japanese punk band Tokyo Sex Pistols, produced the 2000 solo album *Ape Sounds* on Mo' Wax (costarring Mike D and Ben Lee), and released the single "K.F.F. 2000" with Wu-Tang's GZA. He's also designed Beastie Boys action figures and a Japan-only Pepsi can (inset left)! **NEXT** Williams tapped Nigo to codesign his Billionaire Boys Club label and his sneaker line, Ice Cream (for Reebok, debuting in August). A Bathing Ape invades America this fall when Nigo opens his first U.S. shop in New York City. Until then, you're stuck with eBay.

MOENNIG'S WARDROBE STYLING: LAURA BOTOLO/ANTHROUSE MANAGEMENT; HAIR: HALLE DORMAN/THE WALL GROUP

NIGO: CHIAKI TSUKUMO/AP PHOTO; PEPSI CANS: PEPSICO JAPAN

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Skull jewelry

MUST STOP:
Crocheted shawls

MUST GET:
Summer cashmere ponchos (*ponchotora.com*)

MUST STOP:
Flat irons

MUST GET:
Big *Barbarella* hair (à la Kate Beckinsale)

MUST STOP:
High white-trashin' (see Paris Hilton)

MUST GET:
Ethnic-bohemian

MUST STOP:
Baby blue and pink

MUST GET:
Green and yellow

MUST STOP:
Chrome Hearts diamond-encrusted shades

MUST GET:
Oversize shields

MUST STOP:
Insane no-carbing

MUST GET:
A sandwich

MUST STOP:
Freakishly bleached teeth

MUST GET:
A toothbrush

MUST STOP:
Hard Tail workout gear

MUST GET:
Lululemon Athletica

MUST STOP:
Red string kabbalah bracelets

MUST GET:
Chloé leather cuffs

MUST STOP:
Incessant cell phoning

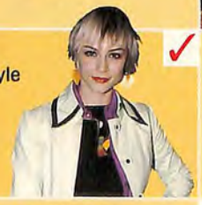
MUST GET:
Manners

MUST STOP:
Hummers. (Please.)

MUST GET:
Hybrid cars

MUST STOP:
Mischa Barton style

MUST GET:
Samaire Armstrong style



MUST STOP:
Statement tees (*Goddess*, *Bitch*)

MUST GET:
Japanese art tees (*zakkacorp.com*)

MUST STOP:
Von Dutch trucker hats

MUST GET:
Eugenia Kim head scarves

MUST STOP:
Stilettos

MUST GET:
Platforms and wedges (à la Louis Vuitton)

MUST STOP:
Faux Chanel jackets

MUST GET:
Marc by Marc Jacobs bombers

MUST STOP:
Juicy Couture sweat suits

MUST GET:
American Apparel mesh tracksuits

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● the designer
vivienne westwood

AGE 62 **WHY HER?** In a fashion world gone horribly Versace, the Brit outlaw designs clothing with edge, wit, and brainy voluptuousness. Westwood—who practically invented British couture—is being honored with a lavish retrospective exhibit at London's Victoria & Albert Museum (through July 11) and an accompanying coffee-table book. "Alexander McQueen and [John] Galliano—they're clearly Vivienne's children," says Fashion Institute of Technology's museum director Valerie Steele. "Their whole approach couldn't have existed if Vivienne hadn't paved the way with her transgressive, theatrical vision." **BUILT TO SPILL** "Vivienne brought in, more than anyone else, the underwear-as-outerwear phenomenon," says Steele. "As time went on, she moved away from transgressive street style [starting most famously with the Sex Pistols] to a kind of pastiche of historical style." Translation: Corsets! **CELEB ENDORSEMENTS** Westwood devotees include Cameron Diaz, Madonna, Kate Moss, and Jerry Hall.

● the gadget
sony playstation portable

WHAT A handheld multimedia console that was the hit of last month's Electronic Entertainment Expo. Die-hard gamers haven't drooled so much since Angelina Jolie slipped into her *Tomb Raider* outfit. **HUBBA-HUBBA** Packed into its stylish frame (smaller than a videocassette) is a high-res LCD screen and wireless connectivity. The PSP can play movies and music, thanks to a tiny disc capable of storing up to 1.8GB of info. **CELEB ENDORSEMENT** Steven Spielberg was one of the droolers at Sony's E^3 booth, though most likely even he'll have to wait for the PSP to hit U.S. shelves next spring (*www.us.playstation.com*).

arianne phillips ● the stylist

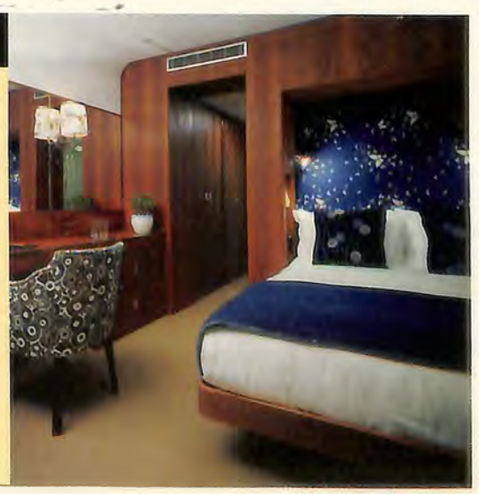
AGE 40 **WHY HER?** Madonna's Re-Invention Tour (below) may be getting so-so reviews, but not Phillips' costumes. The Über-stylist persuaded designers like Stella McCartney, Christian Lacroix, and Karl Lagerfeld to participate in creating Madonna's wardrobe—while managing to keep her own arty, provocative stamp on the show. Beyond Madge duties, Phillips designs costumes for movies (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch*) and styles shoots for the edgiest *Vogue* (Italian). "I'm not a stylist that does personal dressing," explains Phillips. "I've dressed people for the Oscars or premieres but only as a function of a preexisting relationship." **INSPIRATION** "Bob Fosse's *All That Jazz* is a huge inspiration. Also a movie from 1959 called *Black Orpheus*. And I'm going to sound terribly arty here, but a costume designer named Piero Tosi, who did films for Pasolini and Fellini." **FAVE DESIGNERS** "It changes from season to season, but the people who always keep me interested are Rick Owens, Alexander McQueen, Prada, and Costume National." **WORST JOB** "Early on I did commercials because they paid well. [Styling] household products was a real career low." **NEXT** Outfitting Reese Witherspoon and Joaquin Phoenix in the Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line*.

scarlett johansson
● the muse

AGE 19 **CREDITS** Johansson was the lush-lipped star of *Lost in Translation* and *Girl With a Pearl Earring*. **WHY HER?** Couture's new go-to celeb (she'll grace campaigns for Calvin Klein and Louis Vuitton) is curvaceous without the more in-your-face charms of J. Lo. "Scarlett's really contemporary—she looks like beauty 2004 to me—but in some ways she's almost a throwback, what many consider a classic beauty," says celeb stylist Vincent Boucher of her dual modern-retro allure. "And she seems to have an air of amusement—like she's got a nice secret or something—which people like." **SHE LOVES...** Stella McCartney, Alexander McQueen, Tom Ford. **BUT WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD IN...** "All these miniskirts are a little scary," says Johansson. "They seem to get shorter and shorter. I saw one with built-in underwear—I just think you shouldn't have built-in underwear in skirts." **INSPIRATION** "*Moonstruck*—the best movie ever! Also movies with imagination that allow me to escape my regular day, like *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*." **NEXT** The Weitz brothers' *Synergy*, *Mission: Impossible 3* with Tom Cruise, and Brian De Palma's adaptation of James Ellroy's *The Black Dahlia*, costarring Mark Wahlberg.

● the hotels the maritime & sunset marquis

WHAT Bored with too-cool-for-school hotel staffs, beyond-trendy decor, impossibly kitschy minibar treats, and loud, scene-y lobbies? Seems a lot of people are. Which is why the old-school comforts of L.A.'s Sunset Marquis (left)—for years a refuge for rockers—are attracting celebs with a desire for laid-back luxe, like the newly refurbished Villa 1 South suite (55" TV, private Jacuzzi, fireplace). Jasmine-scented gardens and the friendliest staff this side of Disneyland also included. On the other coast, NYC's Maritime Hotel (right) gets the guests for making them feel like they're aboard a cruise ship, without the shuffleboard and all-night buffets. Fleet Week sailors not included. **CELEB ENDORSEMENTS** The Marquis' must-sleepers include Billy Bob Thornton and Mary J. Blige. The Maritime has hosted Tyson Beckford and Daryl Hannah.



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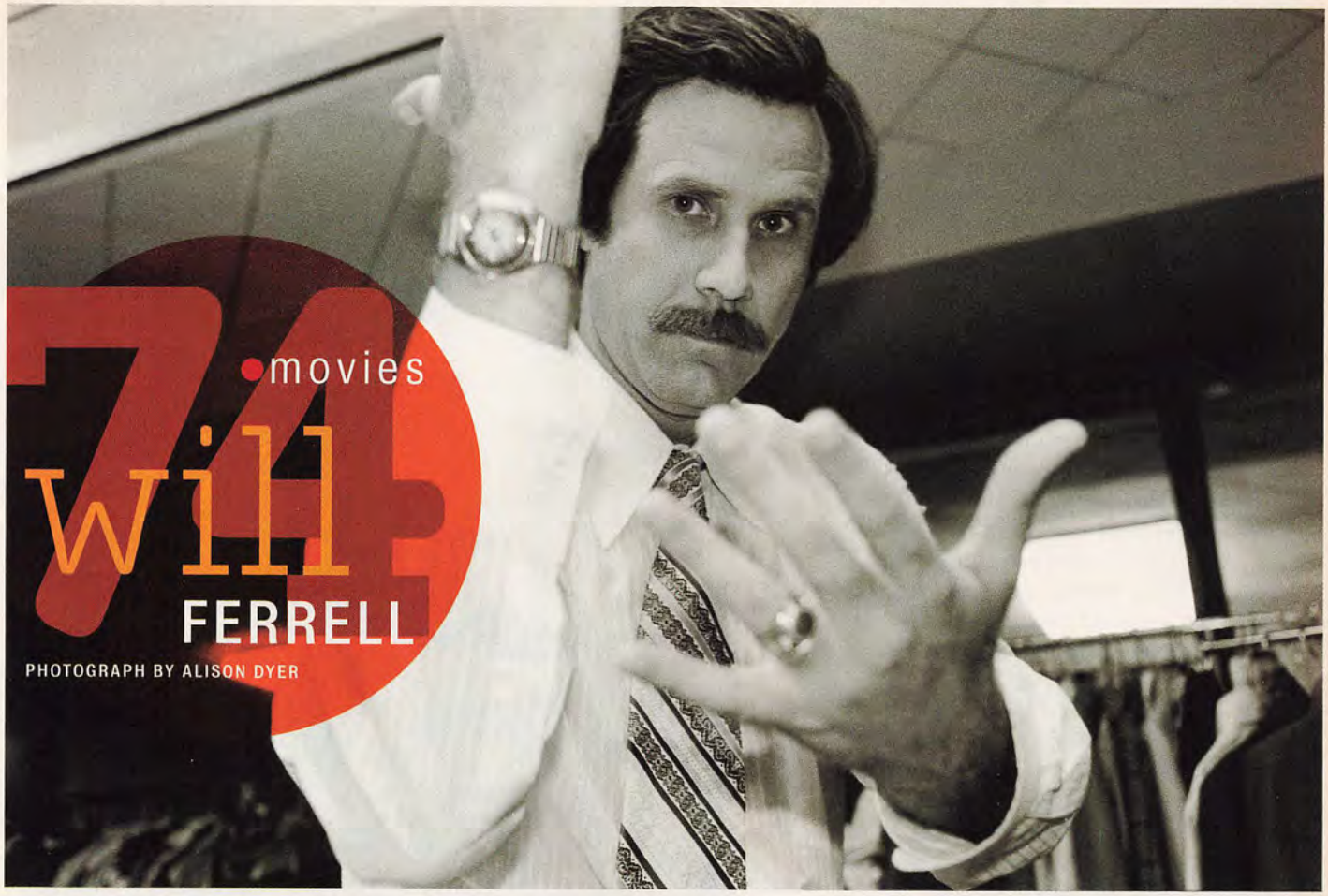

74 ●movies

will FERRELL

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALISON DYER

AGE 36 MUSTWORTHINESS Because—apologies to Bill Murray—he's emerged as everyone's favorite *SNL* alum. After breaking out as a box office star in 2003, Ferrell is one busy elf, with—count 'em—eight films in the works, including the upcoming '70s-era news comedy *Anchorman* and a big-screen *Bewitched* remake, in which he'll play Darrin to Nicole Kidman's Samantha. QUICK QUIZ: CAN HE TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN *BEWITCHED*'S TWO DARRINS? "Oh, completely, yeah." PREFERENCE? "I was definitely more...I started watching it...Dick Sargent was the second one, right?" UM... "Well, anyway, I'm more of the second guy. I'm the second guy's era." ALL-TIME COMEDY HEROES "Dick York. And Dick Sargent." GET THIS MAN SOME EVIAN! "I can't tell jokes, really. I can never remember them. There was a brief time I did stand-up.... I remember bombing so hard that all the moisture left my mouth and my tongue kept sticking to the roof of my mouth, to the point where it became like a speech impediment thing. But you can't stop your show and say, 'By the way, I don't really talk like this. My tongue is sticking to the roof of my mouth.'" NEXT *Anchorman* (July 9) and *Bewitched* (July 8, 2005). Plus: Woody Allen's *Melinda and Melinda*, the soccer comedy *Kicking & Screaming*, the drama *Winter Passing*, the dramedy *The Wendell Baker Story*, the *Curious George* movie (voicing the Man in the Yellow Hat), and the film adaptation of Broadway's *The Producers* (as ninny Nazi Franz Liebkind).

75–76 p.j. tracy ●books

AGES 58, 37 MUSTWORTHINESS The mother-daughter writing team (mom is P.J., daughter is Traci) threw a *Monkeewrench* into the best-seller list last year and then followed up that debut mystery with the intricately plotted *Live Bait*—which follows a string of Minneapolis murders. CREATIVE PROCESS The women, who live in Minnesota (P.J.) and California (Traci), say they need to be in the same room to write. "And we act out the plot, so we have crazy fun doing that," says Traci. Must get interesting for the murder scenes. NEXT The third Monkeewrench book, *Milk Run*, is due out next spring.

TAMYRA GRAY 77

Photograph by Roberto D'Este

●music

AGE 24 MUSTWORTHINESS The angel-voiced fourth-place finisher from *American Idol*'s first season (we're still dreaming of the aborted Kelly-Tamyra showdown) has cowritten 12 of 13 tracks on her debut CD, *The Dreamer*, released last month. ON HER MUST LIST "*Damita Jo*. It's a new side to Janet, but still keeping it Janet." DREAM DUET "Prince. I could stop singing after that. When I heard about him and Beyoncé at the Grammys I was like, 'Wow, she's so lucky!'" NEXT Promoting her album.

Photograph by Sheryl Nields

●television

78 megan mullally

AGE 45 MUSTWORTHINESS After six seasons, four Emmy nods, and a statuette, Mullally's enormously entertaining portrayal of hard-drinking diva Karen Walker is *the* reason to keep watching *Will & Grace*. This year, she carried an additional load, so to speak, in pregnant costar Debra Messing's frequent absence. ON HER MUST LIST Tom Waits and Randy Newman. "They're absolute individualists who never compromise their voice to have a hit record or song when they certainly could." WORST JOB "I was a shoe model at a show in Chicago when I was 22. People would come in and I'd have to, like, try on a shoe for them. It was really fetishistic and kind of scary. I wasn't exactly sure why they wanted to see the shoe on me. There was a little bit of a gray area there." WILL & GUEST "I wasn't sure about Cher's [appearance]. They flew her in. Like, she was sort of dropped in on a crescent moon, she did the scene, and was, like, airlifted back out. And when I met her she was in her full Cher Land drag, so I didn't get to experience her as a person." HOW SHE KEEPS KAREN FRESH "I've always felt that at her core, she's relatively untroubled and really happy. She's just along for the ride, and she's actually trying to do the right thing, even though it may not come off like that at times." NEXT *Will & Grace*'s seventh season; touring with her band, Supreme Music Program.

HEATH LEDGER 79

Photograph by Jake Chessum

●movies

AGE 25 MUSTWORTHINESS If early rumors are true, *Brokeback Mountain*—based on an Annie Proulx short story and adapted by Larry McMurtry—could bust one of Hollywood's long-standing barriers. A-list hunks Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal appear as a Wyoming ranch hand and a Texas cowboy whose friendship develops into an explicit, decades-long love affair. "Everyone is really excited and nervous," reports Ledger from the film's Calgary set. "We're all hoping that it'll break some taboos. But I don't want people getting overexcited about how new the story line is. To me, we're telling a beautiful love story before anything else." THE COWBOY WAY Ledger worried that the film's subject matter could lead to a second-rate cheesefest. "[Director] Ang Lee came to me with the story, and the first time I heard about it, I thought it sounded really retarded," he laughs. "I mean...a gay cowboy movie? Once I read the script, the story revealed itself to be anything but. It's mature and strong." SHELF LIFE The story—which first appeared in *The New Yorker* in 1997—languished in development hell for years despite interest from the likes of Gus Van Sant, Josh Hartnett, and Colin Farrell. Lee finally agreed to take it on, quickly attracting a supporting cast that includes Randy Quaid, Michelle Williams, and Anne Hathaway. "Naomi [Watts, his ex-girlfriend] definitely helped me muster up the strength and courage to say that this was the right thing to do," says Ledger. NEXT *Brokeback* opens in 2005.

pj HARVEY

PHOTOGRAPH BY VALERIE PHILLIPS

•music

AGE 34 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The Grammy-nominated rocker has followed her most accessible (and lauded) album—2000's *Stories From the City, Stories From the Sea*—with jagged, edgy winner *Uh Huh Her*, which she wrote, performed, and produced nearly single-handedly. "The curiosity of digging into what makes human beings feel like they do...interests me more than anything," she says. **POLLY JEAN, PUPPET MASTER** The singer, who attended art school in London, says that when she was a kid she would write plays for her puppets. "I'm a person that has to create things," she says. "I've always been like that—even as a child." **ON HER MUST LIST** William Kentridge, a South African whose drawings and animation reflect on apartheid and colonialism. His recent exhibition in Los Angeles was "the last thing that took my breath away, which is always what I'm looking for." **KEEPING THE FAITHFULL** Harvey's been working with craggy-voiced singer Marianne Faithfull on the latter's next album. "It was quite nice," says Harvey, "because I wrote pieces that I longed to hear her voice over—some quite rocky, quite rough, dark music." **NEXT** Summer festivals, Lollapalooza, and then a world tour starting in September.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN SCHOELLER

01 music television

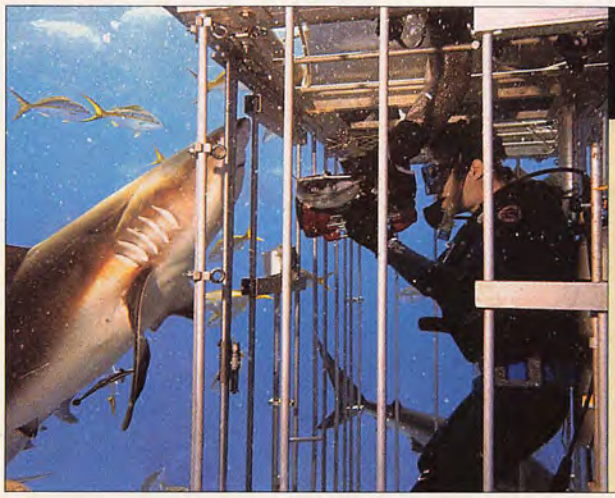
METHOD man

AGE 33 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The Wu-Tang Clan's most charismatic killer bee is comfortable in any medium. This year, the 1995 Grammy winner went from kicking around (literally) in videogames to copiloting the film *Soul Plane* to dropping his third solo album, *Tical Ø: The Prequel*. Now he and fellow hip-hopper Redman are taping their Fox sitcom, *Method & Red*, about two knucklehead rappers movin' on up to an affluent suburban neighborhood in New Jersey. **ABOUT THAT OLD HOOD** "I'm about 15 minutes away. I'm still in Staten Island. Redman lives in my old hood, though. He's crazy as hell." **ON HIS MUST LIST** Eric Bana. "That dude is dope in everything he f---in' does, from *Chopper* all the way to *Troy*. I didn't really dig the movie, [but] the fight scene between him and Brad Pitt? Classic." **NEXT** More acting. "It's going to be a big feature that I can't wait to tell you about if I get the damn part." In the meantime, *Method & Red* airs Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m. on Fox.

02 stage

82 eric idle

AGE 61 **MUSTWORTHINESS** With the blessing of his ex-partners in parody, Idle has concocted *Monty Python's Spamalot*—a musical based on their rip-roaringly ribald *Holy Grail*—directed by Mike Nichols. **INSPIRED BY MEL BROOKS, WERE YOU?** "I went to him 15 years ago and begged for the rights [to *The Producers*], but the smart bastard said no." **TRICKY BUSINESS** "[*Spamalot*] must be something that can stand alone. Fans will come, but it must also appeal to people who haven't seen [*Grail*]." **WILL SWORDS BE DRAWN OVER "CASTLE ANTHRAX"?** "Terrorists may not destroy our sense of humor. We must laugh at them until they go away." **AND THE FRENCH?** "Oh, the French are flatulent. 'I fart in your general direction!' I know the impact of the *Grail*." **NEXT** *Spamalot* hits Chicago Dec. 21 and Broadway in March '05.



OPEN WATER

03 movies

NAME Stuart Cove **AGE** 45 **MUSTWORTHINESS** With more than 100 films and commercials on his résumé, Cove, who lives in the Bahamas, is one of the world's most sought-after shark whisperers. But no gig has tested his skills more than *Open Water*, the low-budget horror flick that sparked a feeding frenzy at this year's Sundance. Dubbed "*Jaws* meets *The Blair Witch Project*," the movie stars Blanchard Ryan and Daniel Travis as vacationers who get stranded in shark-infested waters. There were no computer-generated special effects—just 30-odd Caribbean reef sharks. **SURVIVING A SHARK ATTACK** "Stay still. Don't grab the sharks. If they bump into you, don't push them away." **SHARKS THAT SCARE HIM MOST** "There are probably more sharks in the movie business than there are in the ocean." **NEXT** *Open Water* hits theaters Aug. 6.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JUSTIN STEPHENS

84 kevin WEISMAN

television

AGE 33 **MUSTWORTHINESS** He breathes adorably awkward life into *Alias*' gizmo geek Marshall, a character only slightly less frenetic than the fun and funky actor portraying him. **DOES HE SPEAK GEEK?** "I know more than Victor Garber," insists Weisman. "He claims he doesn't know anything that's going on. I often have to read the script more than once. But a lot of times I'll just thumb through to my scenes, which makes it a very short read. I could literally read it in one trip to the bathroom." **ON HIS MUST LIST** "Denzel never disappoints. Always riveting. And great teeth. Seriously, someone get me the name of his dentist." **A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL** "*The Sopranos* rocks, even though it's on the same time as *Alias*. I guess that's what TiVo's for. I love my TiVo. In fact, I would marry TiVo if President Bush would allow it." **WORST JOB** "I was substituting at the Samuel Goldwyn Foundation Children's Center, the school for the children of famous Hollywood types, and this kid reached in his pants and wiped [poop] on the wall," Weisman says. "I thought the job would help my career. Instead, I was wiping [poop] from the wall." **NEXT** Season 4 of *Alias*, and a CD from his band Trainwreck.

86 andrew sean greer's max tivoli

books

AGE Depends on the page **MUSTWORTHINESS** The deeply romantic narrator of this year's breakout novel, Andrew Sean Greer's *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, is born into the body of a grizzled old man and grows younger every year until we last see him in 1930. "To distract myself from writing, I was singing Bob Dylan's 'My Back Pages,'" says Greer, 33. "You know, 'I was so much older then, I'm younger than that now.' I thought, I should write a character like that." **NEXT** "Another heartbreaker novel, set in San Francisco in the 1950s."

STAR WARS 85

dvd

MUSTWORTHINESS Being frozen in carbonite would be less agonizing than the decades-long wait for this DVD release. "We didn't actually plan on doing this until after all three of the prequels were done," says Jim Ward, exec producer of the discs, which will contain George Lucas' 1997 remastered special editions. "But we found a window of time when George could focus on this." **THE BOUNTY** The four-disc set is a Fett accompli of miscellanea including commentary by Carrie Fisher; a taste of the new videogame *Star Wars Battlefront*; 10 minutes behind the scenes of the final prequel, *The Return of Darth Vader*; plus the two-and-a-half-hour *Empire of the Dreams* doc, which boasts unseen footage and 40 new interviews with the likes of Harrison Ford and James Earl Jones. **NOT ON THE DVD** *The Star Wars Holiday Special*—the Lucas-loathed CBS special from 1978—starring the cast and featuring painful musical numbers, dull Wookiee domestic life, and, inexplicably, Bea Arthur as the Mos Eisley cantina bartender. **NEXT** The DVD collection is out Sept. 21.

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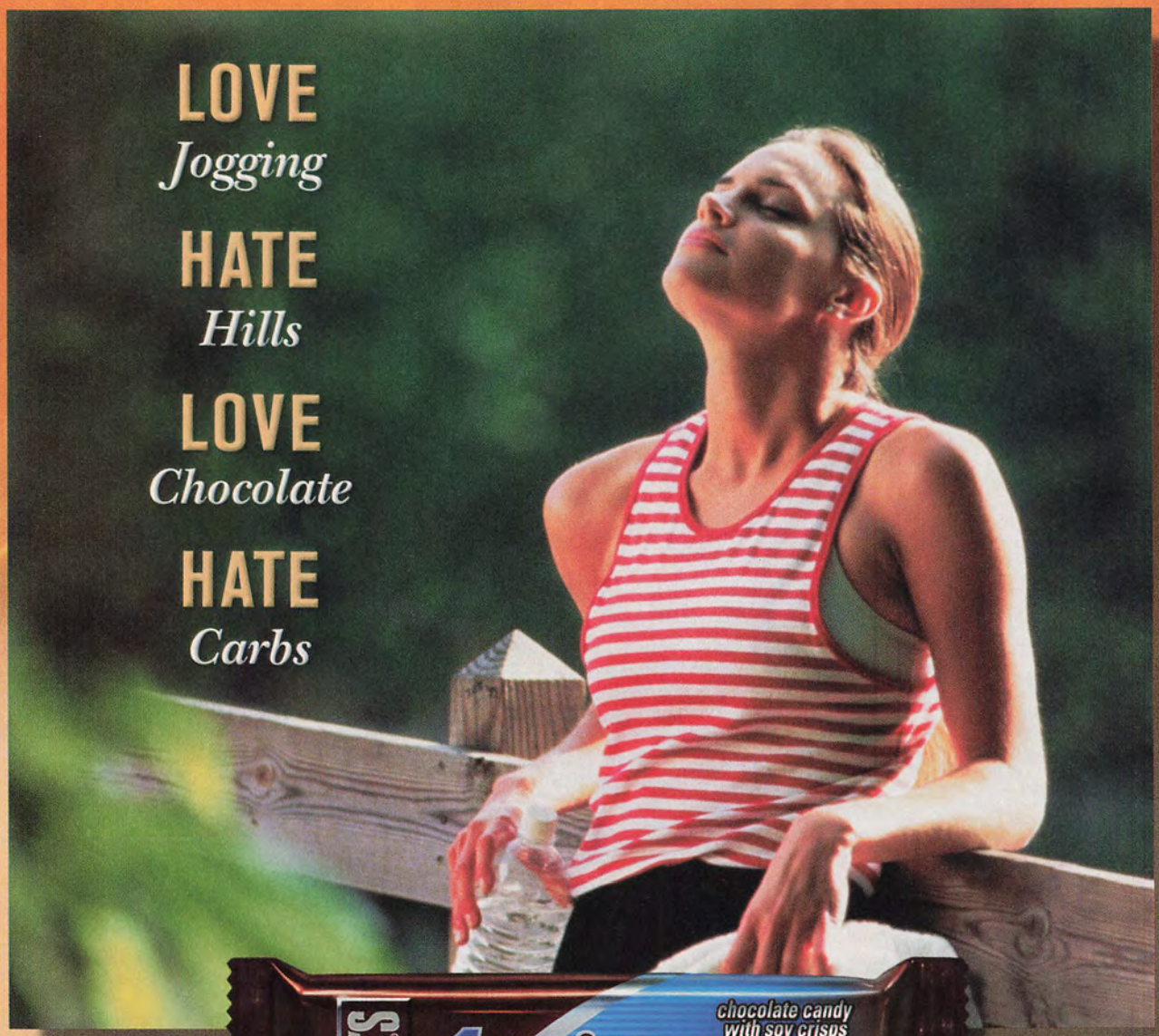

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music

87 franz FERDINAND

PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON MADARA

AGE 2.5 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The Glaswegian quartet (Bob Hardy, Paul Thomson, Nick McCarthy, and Alex Kapranos) embodies that classic U.K. rock cliché—ex–art-school students. Yet the group manages to live up to the relentless hype of the breathless British press. We'll add to the buzz: The band's self-titled debut is a reminder that rock music is designed for both of your pleasure centers—the brain and the hips. Balancing disco-rific grooves and beery sing-along choruses, Franz's Talking Heads–meets-Bowie sound landed them a deal on tastemaker indie label Domino, before a bidding war scored Franz a distribution deal at Epic. **ON THEIR MUST LIST** "This Glasgow group Sons and Daughters," says Kapranos. "They remind me of those old Lee Hazlewood–Nancy Sinatra duets. I've also been listening to a lot of *rembetika*, which was the music of Greek outlaws in the '20s and '30s—it's like the original gangsta music." **DEAD FOLKS ON THEIR MUST LIST BESIDES ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND** "Vlad the Impaler. He was the guy Dracula was based on. I don't really like him—I just think he sounds like such a shocking, astonishing character." So was that almost the name of the band? "Oh no, then we'd have to play death metal or something." **NEXT** Touring, touring, and touring through the U.S. and Europe this summer. And, hopefully, a trip back into the studio before the end of the year.

WILL ARNETT

television

88

AGE 34 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Because he's turned *Arrested Development*'s wack-job magician Gob (pronounced like the biblical sufferer) into the most intriguingly deluded character in prime time. **WAS THE MAGIC INSIDE YOU ALL ALONG AND YOU JUST DIDN'T KNOW IT?** "I remember first meeting with Mitch on the show and he said, 'You've got to let it out,' and I said, 'I don't want to do it,' and he said, 'Noblesse oblige.' And I realized I did have an obligation to the rest of the world to let my magic out. Thank God the French have an expression for it." **ON HIS MUST LIST** The English comedy *Withnail & I*. "There's not a wasted moment in that film—which is the complete opposite of my life, which is a series of wasted moments interrupted by phone calls." **MOST AWKWARD CELEBRITY ENCOUNTER HE EVER WITNESSED** "I was at Barneys and Bruce Springsteen was ahead of me in line, and he says to the guy behind the counter, 'I'd like to put this on my account.' The guy picks up the phone and says, 'I have Rick Springfield here and he'd like to put some stuff on his account.' No joke." **NEXT** Season 2 of *Arrested*; playing Maggie Gyllenhaal's metrosexual husband in *The Great New Wonderful*; a supporting role in the J. Lo flick *Monster-in-Law*.

EMMY ROSSUM AGE 17 MUSTWORTHINESS It's been a head-spinning year for the precocious opera singer-turned-actress, with roles as Sean Penn's murdered daughter in *Mystic River* and Jake Gyllenhaal's plucky love interest in *The Day After Tomorrow*. But her ascent to stardom ain't over until the ugly dude in the mask sings: Rossum has nabbed the coveted showcase part of Christine in the film adaptation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*. AND SHE'S NEVER EVEN SEEN THE SHOW! "I know, I think I'm the only person

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WARWICK SAINT

89: phantom OF THE OPERA

movies

in the world who hasn't," she says. "After the screen test, I confessed that to Andrew, and he said, 'Fantastic!' He wanted the character to come from inside who I am." ON HER MUST LIST *Mystic River* director Clint Eastwood. "One of the most important things he taught me was that no good work can be done amidst chaos." NEXT College may be on hold. "I can't be enrolled as a full-time student right now because every time I actually sit my butt down in the classroom, my cell phone rings and I've got a fantastic job that I just can't turn down."

PATRICK WILSON **AGE** 30 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The two-time Tony nominee (for *Oklahoma!* and *The Full Monty*) more than held his own among the powerhouse cast of HBO's *Angels in America*. Now he's bringing his Broadway-honed musical chops to the role of the dashing Count Raoul in Joel Schumacher's adaptation of *The Phantom of the Opera*, due in December. **ON HIS MUST LIST** "Mike Nichols, for putting me in *Angels in America*. And Eddie Van Halen, just because he's Eddie." **AND ALSO...** "A six-pack of Rolling Rock, my golf clubs, my DVD collection, my PlayStation, and *SportsCenter*." **CAREER HIGH** "The first day I worked with Al Pacino in *Angels*, I was in the makeup chair, and one of the PAs comes in and says, 'Can I have the Tony nominee to the set?' I remember thinking, Wow, I just got nominated for my second Tony and I'm about to start shooting with Al Pacino. That was a good moment." **SPIRITUAL JOURNEY** "If I'm recording an album, which I'm doing this week, I must listen to Steve Perry"—yes, *the* Steve Perry of Journey. "The riff on *Greatest Hits Live* on 'Lovin', Touchin', Squeezin'—he just tears it up." **NEXT** On CD, a recording of the 1999 Off Broadway musical *Bright Lights, Big City*, and on the big screen, a thriller called *Hard Candy*, which begins shooting this month.

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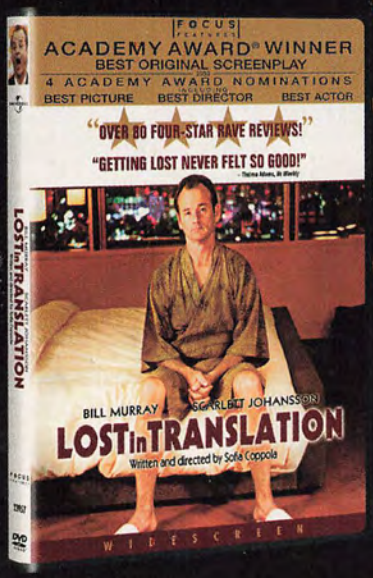

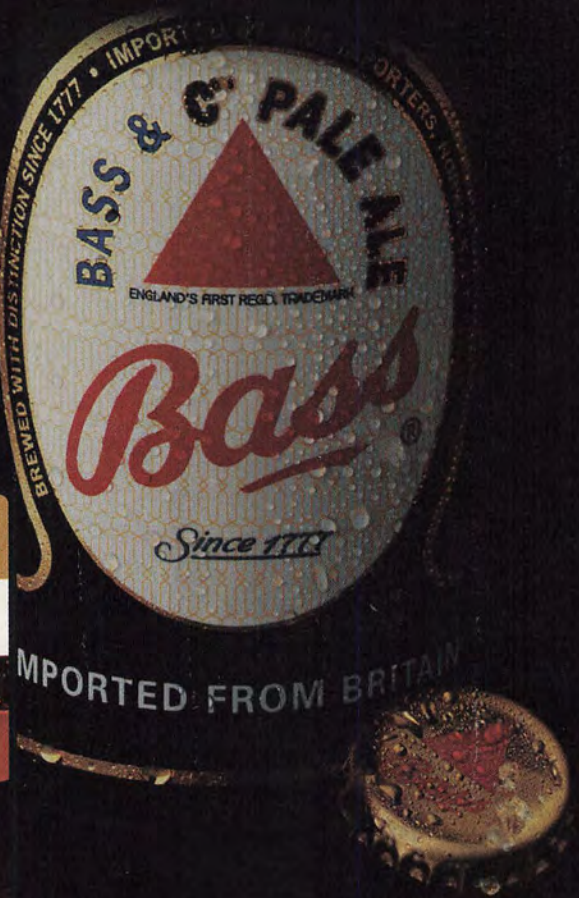

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PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF MINTON

GREEN day's AMERICAN IDIOT

•music

AGE 15 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The band that paved the brash, bratty way for acts like blink-182 delivers *American Idiot*, a bold, polished punk opera. While the music will keep their constituency happy, the lyrics—which refer to "a redneck agenda" and "a land of make-believe that don't believe in me"—will have more than fans thrashing. **THIS IS NOT 'DUDE, WHERE'S MY PUNK OPERA?'** Frontman Billie Joe Armstrong, 32, says *AI* is as personal as it is political. "I was thinking about how, when you get to be 18 or 19 years old, you feel like life isn't what you expected it to be, and you feel alienated from pretty much everything—from your hometown, from your school, and even, on a lot of levels, from your friends." **GOING TO GREAT LENGTHS** *AI* will test the attention spans of punk fans—who generally digest their tunes in three-minute chunks—with a few songs clocking in at nine minutes. "This is definitely something that can sabotage success," says Armstrong. **NEXT** The album is set for a September release. Armstrong, with band members Mike Dirnt and Tre Cool, will follow it with a tour. But a warning to longtime Green Day fans: "Our plan is to be able to play this record from front to back," he says, "without playing any old material."

Get caught reading.
A MESSAGE FROM AAP
Whoopi Goldberg gets caught reading.
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Photo © Timothy White

92 david yezzi

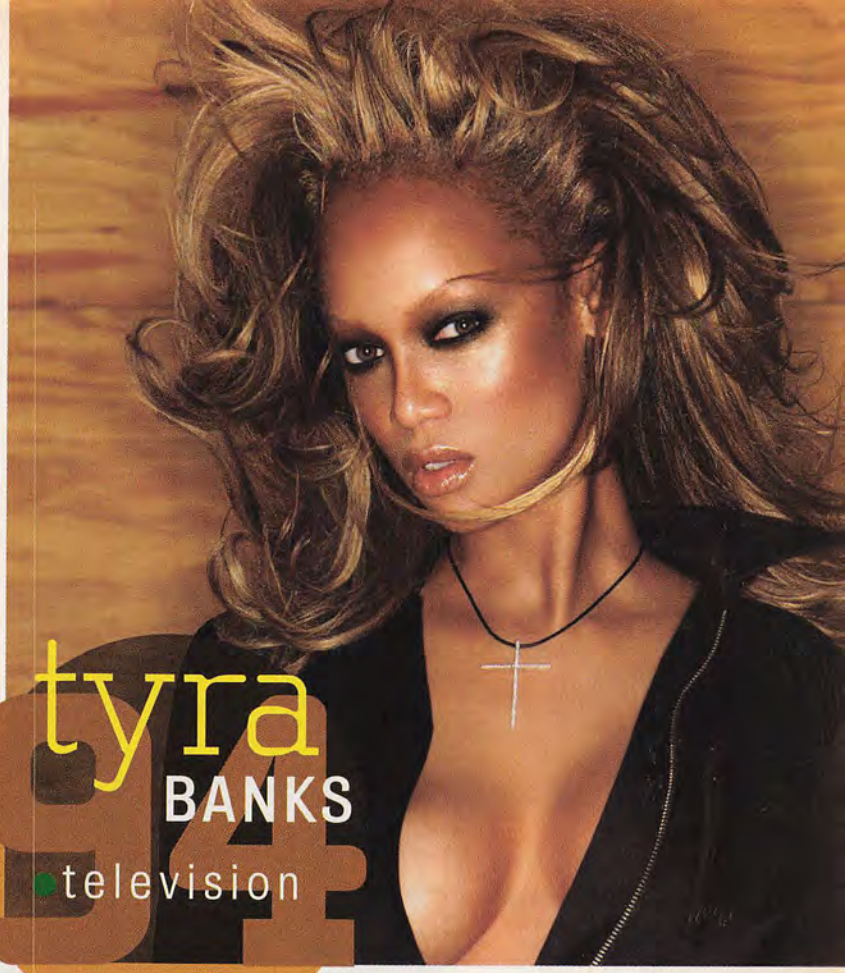
• books

AGE 37 MUSTWORTHINESS His debut collection, *The Hidden Model* (Northwestern University Press), features accessible poetry (rhyme!), including an ode to chef Julia Child's breasts (okay, the chicken kind: "...your white meat drives me wild/dear circummortal chef, sweet Julia Child"), laced with classical allusions. HIS AIM "To write something I could read again in 10 years without gagging. The same for the reader." WORST JOB "Cold-call telemarketing for skin-care products while struggling as an actor in New York." NEXT "An opera libretto about W.H. Auden, set in his cramped apartment on New York's St. Mark's Place." Johnny Depp, call your agent!

THE APPLE 93

• dvd

AGE 24 MUSTWORTHINESS The mind-blowing 1980 futuristic glam-rock-musical-slash-biblical-allegory—set in 1994 and directed by *Over the Top* schlockmeister Menahem Golan—follows two Canadian folksingers as they fight BIM, an evil music corporation run by Mr. Boogalow (Vladek Sheybal, below). God, by the way, comes down from the sky in the last scene...driving a golden Rolls-Royce. *The Apple*, a midnight-movie fixture since early 2003, is transfixingly, heartwarmingly, almost movingly bad. MENAHEM GOLAN, DEFEND YOURSELF! "I sort of had a feeling that it was a little bit, you know, ahead of its time," says the 75-year-old filmmaker, who admits wanting to jump out of his 15th-floor hotel-room window after the movie was booed during its premiere at a Montreal film festival. "But I'm astonished to hear that it's turned cult," he says. "You don't know what news you've given me. I love to see people having fun and laughing." NEXT The DVD hits stores in August.



tyra BANKS 94

• television

AGE 30 MUSTWORTHINESS A declawer with décolletage to die for, this mother hen makes UPN's *America's Next Top Model* more delectable than any show about dueling waifs has a right to be. PHYSICAL PERFECTION IS "Halle Berry's waist, Jessica Simpson's bone structure, Cindy Crawford's mole, Niki Taylor's smile, Jennifer Lopez's skin, [Victoria's Secret model] Adriana Lima's eyes, Heidi Klum's personality...and my big-ass forehead." CAREER HIGH "As a model, being the first black woman on the cover of the SPORTS ILLUSTRATED swimsuit issue and on the cover of the Victoria's Secret catalog; as a producer, creating *America's Next Top Model* and making UPN a force to be reckoned with." FALL INTO THE GAP "In high school I auditioned—wait, not auditioned, look how screwed up my life is—I applied to the Gap, but I never got a response." NEXT Two more seasons of *Top Model* and a host of other TV projects, including a *Model* spin-off. Banks is also recording a solo album, which she hopes to have out by early 2005.

95 reno 911!

• dvd

MUSTWORTHINESS The series' first season (now on DVD) is the deadpan, unscripted *COPS* parody that even cops like. EXCEPT FOR THIS COP "We film in a working sheriff's station," says Thomas Lennon, who plays the short-shorted Lieutenant Dangle, "and a female sergeant filed an official complaint to ask if I would please stop bending over." OFFICER UNDERCOVER Despite a cast consensus, Lennon's "gun" cannot be seen out of its "holster" in the opening credits. "But in the opening credits of season 2, I'm fully nude...with a mud mask on." NEXT A sophomore season now on Comedy Central.

THE forgotten 97 •movies

JULIANNE MOORE

AGE 43 **MUSTWORTHINESS** She's the best, and we swear we liked her before almost everybody else did—like in *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle* or in that one scene in *The Fugitive*. And we can't wait to see her carry her first thriller, September's *The Forgotten*, where she'll play a grieving mother out to prove that she's not crazy—i.e., that she really had a son who died. **CAREER HIGH** "I've had several directors write things for me," she says, citing *Far From Heaven* and *Boogie Nights*. "That's the ultimate compliment." **CAREER LOW** "*Assassins* was not one of my favorite moments." And *Tales From the Darkside: The Movie*: "I was excited to get it just because it was my first movie, but it was a money movie, so it wasn't exactly a shining moment for anybody involved." **ON HER MUST LIST** "Yikes, this is hard. Let me give it some thought. I'll call you tomorrow at 4 o'clock." **THE NEXT DAY, 4 O'CLOCK** "Emma Thompson, Naomi Watts, Samantha Morton, Kathy Bates, Daniel Day-Lewis, Sean Penn, Tom Waits, Loretta Lynn, Willie Nelson, Van Morrison." And Belgian architect Vincent Van Duysen. **NEXT** *The Prizewinner of Defiance, Ohio*, as a poor woman who raises 10 kids by winning contests.

DOMINIC WEST

AGE 34 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Moore handpicked the *Mona Lisa Smile* Brit to be her leading man in *The Forgotten*. That's reason enough. But he's also pretty great on HBO's *The Wire*. **JULIANNE, WHY'D YOU CHOOSE DOMINIC?** "Because he's-a damn good-lookin'." **DOMINIC, WHAT'D YOU THINK OF JULIANNE?** "It took me about a week to realize I had to ask her to stop talking to me, because she'd be discussing the price of cheese or making a joke and they'd say *Action!* and she'd writhe around on the floor in floods of tears and gut-wrenching grief. And I realized I can't do that—that's why I moped around for quite a long time thinking about dead babies." **ON HIS MUST LIST** Paul Bettany, Jake Gyllenhaal, and *Donnie Darko*: "I love that film." **CAREER LOW** *Spice World*. "I did it only to meet the Spice Girls, because it was a funny thing to do." **NEXT** Shooting *The Wire*.

98 dallas •dvd

AGE 26 **MUSTWORTHINESS** *Dynasty* had the catfights, *Knots Landing* cornered suburban ennui, but *Dallas* remains the definitive nighttime soap opera. For 14 years, audiences shoved off weekend revelry to watch the conniving Ewings of Southfork; on Aug. 24, the first two seasons will premiere on DVD. "It was the epitome of the '80s," says Linda Gray, who portrayed bitchy boozehound Sue Ellen Ewing. "It was the perfect escape. Fashion, sex, greed, avarice, business...we had it all!" **ON THE DVD** SOAPnet's recent reunion special and commentary from stars including Larry Hagman and (yay!) Charlene Tilton; though Gray admits, "Larry and Patrick [Duffy] and I see each other all the time. We had lunch in Santa Monica a month ago and the paparazzi were still following us!" **SOAP DISH** "*Dallas* was smart and the writing was interesting," says Gray. "Everything is so dumbed down these days. I'm more into HBO right now." **NEXT** A reunion on CBS next season.

BRAD MELTZER 99 •books

AGE 34 **MUSTWORTHINESS** He's writing the season's biggest event in superherodom: *Identity Crisis*, a seven-issue comic-book series involving every major DC character from Batman to the Elongated Man. "I want to explore the emotional cost of putting on a cape," says Meltzer, whom you may also know from one of his five best-selling thrillers. **ON HIS MUST LIST** "[Muppet creator] Jim Henson—a visionary who didn't care about money, only his unique concept of entertaining." **WORST JOB** Scooping Häagen-Dazs. "If people were mean to me I'd break off the bottom of the cone so the ice cream would leak out after they walked away." **NEXT** The WB drama *Jack & Bobby*, which he cocreated.

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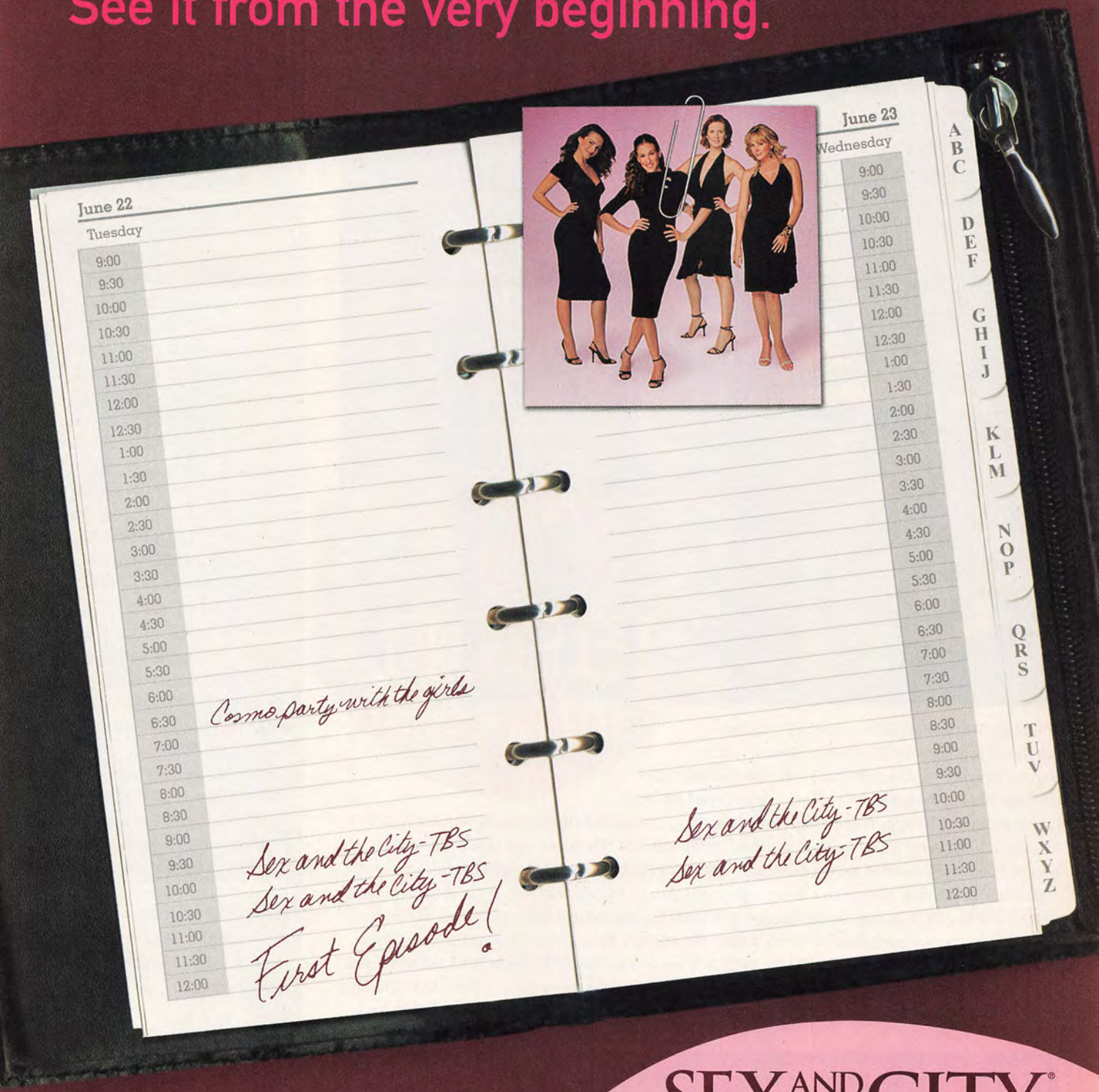

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PHOTOGRAPH BY PATRICK HOELCK

100 television

jason RITTER

AGE 24 MUSTWORTHINESS He infuses Kevin, Joan's paralyzed brother on CBS' *Joan of Arcadia*, with soul and bravery—traits that Ritter, who lost dad John Ritter while filming the series' fifth episode, oozes in real life. Plus, he can do funny (*Mumford*) and camp (*Freddy vs. Jason*). WHEN HE FIRST KNEW HE WANTED TO ACT "I was about 5 and in my little bunk bed at home." WHAT DAD SAID "He never tried to talk me out of it. He was supportive of whatever we wanted to do." A TIGHTS SPOT "At age 8, I played Theo in *Pippin* [with Jack Black in the title role of the school production]. All my friends said they could see through my tights." WORST JOB "Flipping chicken burgers at a Little League game. I didn't cook them all the way through. I had to buy back about 16." IF HE WASN'T ACTING, HE'D BE... "Doing mime on the Third Street promenade in Santa Monica." HE'S HELL ON WHEELS "I can do a one-handed wheelie [with the wheelchair] and bounce down two stairs. I ran over [costar] Mary Steenburgen's toes a billion times." NEXT The Don Roos feature *Happy Endings*, starring Maggie Gyllenhaal and Lisa Kudrow, and season 2 of *Joan*.

BILL NEIL'S TRAILERS

102 movies

AGE 35 MUSTWORTHINESS The mild-mannered editor is the dark mind behind some of the creepiest film teasers ever (*Freddy vs. Jason*, *Dawn of the Dead*). Don't even pretend you remained composed during the *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* trailer when the screen went to black and you only heard a woman screaming. MUSICAL INSPIRATION "When I'm making a comedy trailer, I get ideas from spinning class. I always e-mail my teacher to ask the name of a song." (Latest inspirations: Ani DiFranco's "Amazing Grace" and Blue Man Group's "I Feel Love.") WORST JOB "Working at Spencer Gifts. They sold poop in a can. Having to clean up after people that sprayed poop all over the aisles was pretty bad." NEXT His trailer for M. Night Shyamalan's *The Village* is in theaters now.

movies

101 manchurian candidate

AGE 42 MUSTWORTHINESS John Frankenheimer's 1962 tale of brainwashing and assassination is the gold standard of political thrillers. Jonathan Demme's remake of the Cold War paranoia classic has Denzel Washington stepping into Frank Sinatra's uniform and Meryl Streep taking over the role of the power-hungry monster mom played by Angela Lansbury. AND WHAT DOES LANSBURY THINK? "I'm so unhappy," says the 78-year-old actress, who earned an Oscar nod for her performance. "I'm so sorry they had to mess with something that was so perfect. I couldn't believe it when I heard they were remaking it. I said, 'There's no way they would be foolish enough to walk into that trap.'" BUT IT'S MERYL STREEP! "I have great admiration for her. She'll probably be very interesting. I just wish she hadn't chosen to do it." PRESIDENTIAL SEAL OF APPROVAL "After Kennedy's assassination, *The Manchurian Candidate* was taken out of circulation. People feared it gave somebody the idea of shooting a politician with a rifle. But strangely enough, while we were making it, Kennedy was terribly excited about it. He adored the book and was a friend of Sinatra's." NEXT The remake hits theaters July 30.

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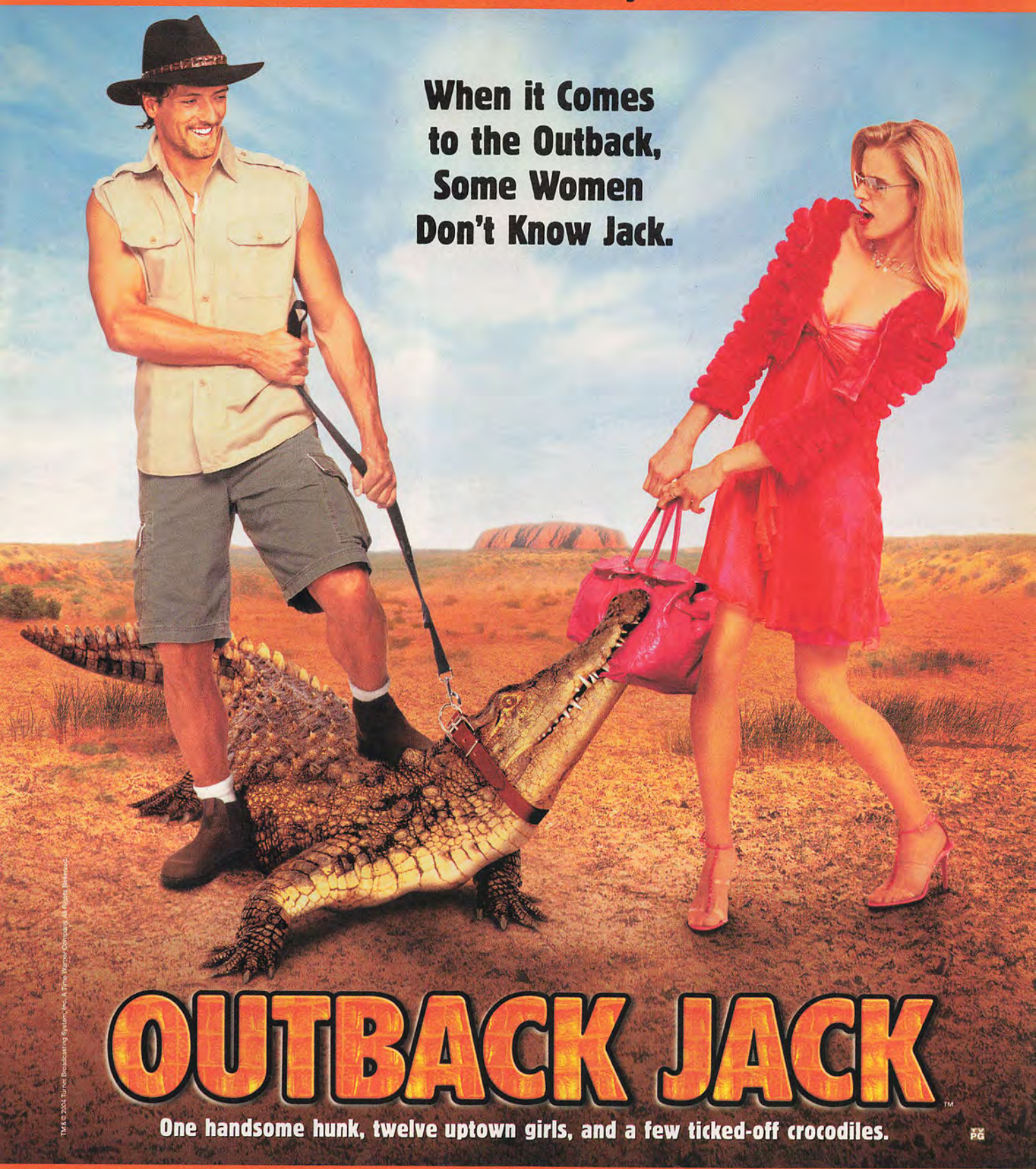
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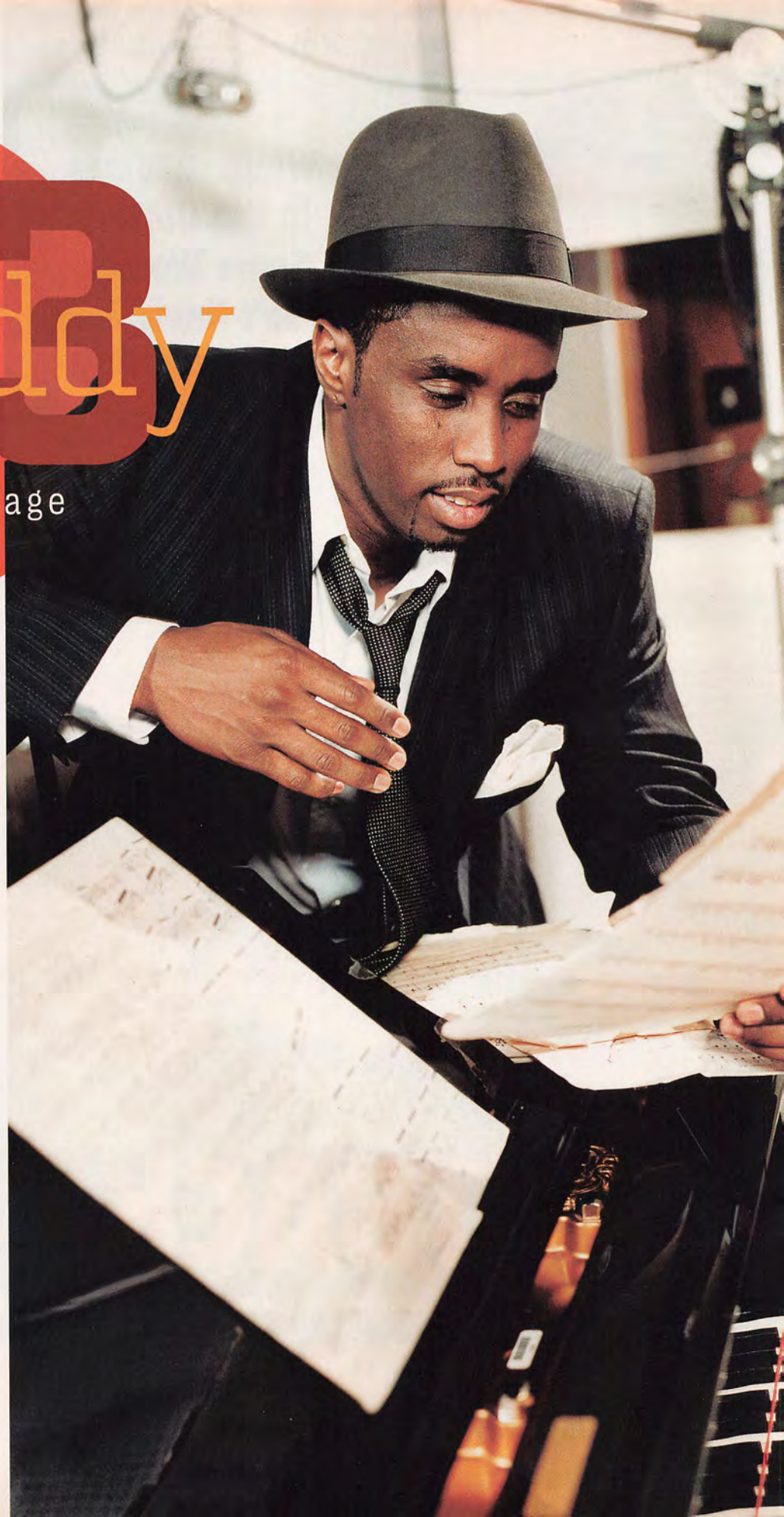

AGE 34 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Somewhere between marathon running, menswear designing, and rap moguling, he's managed to break box office records with his Broadway debut as Walter Lee Younger in *A Raisin in the Sun*. **ACT 1, SCENE 1** "The most challenging part has been my overall inexperience on stage, [because] my first 30 days on Broadway were my first 30 days in live theater, period." **AND THEN CAME THE CRITICS** "The good reviews, the mediocre, the bad—everything has been fair," says the actor known as Sean Combs. "Everything has been the way it is for an actor on Broadway." **THEN TONY PASSED BY** "One of the secrets of my success is my realism," Diddy explains. "For me to think I would be nominated for a Tony when the nominations came on my 25th day on Broadway would have been totally unrealistic." **AND IT'S STILL BETTER THAN TOILETS** "I used to have to clean bathrooms in…an El Torito, a Mexican restaurant. It was a job! But I was the best bathroom cleaner that ever was." **ON HIS MUST LIST** "Russell Simmons, Jay-Z, Al Sharpton, Muhammad Ali, and all the troops fighting overseas. And my mother. She would kill me if I left her off." **NEXT** A project "to bring out the biggest youth voter turnout and the biggest minority voter turnout."

PHYLICIA RASHAD

Photograph by Len Irish

stage 104

AGE 56 **MUSTWORTHINESS** It took 12 years, but the Tony winner has finally exorcised the ghost of Clair Huxtable by playing matriarch Lena Younger—mom to Sean Combs' character—in the hit Broadway revival of *A Raisin in the Sun*. Almost unrecognizable in a '50s housedress and stiff hairdo, Rashad gives Lena a soft heart and a spine of steel. **CONSCIOUSNESS** ***RAISIN*** "This play was first produced 45 years ago, and we can finally see how politically astute and ahead of her time the playwright was [Lorraine Hansberry wrote it at age 28]. Every person who sees it can relate to it, no matter what generation or ethnicity." **ON HER MUST LIST** "Nicole Kidman is fabulous. I had the great fortune of meeting her backstage one evening and I said, 'Child, why didn't they give you the Oscar for *The Others*?' That was an amazing performance." **WHAT ABOUT BILL?** "When we were doing the pilot for *The Cosby Show*, he said, 'You always come in on cue. I want you to take the time to look at me and trust that the audience is with you.' That's where the famous Clair Huxtable stare came from." **NEXT** The Broadway premiere of August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean*, in which Rashad plays the 300-year-old Aunt Esther.

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105 AMERICAN chopper

● television

NAMES Paul Teutul Jr. and Paul Teutul Sr. **AGES** 29, 55 **MUSTWORTHINESS** More than 3.5 million fans tune in each week to *American Chopper* on the Discovery Channel to watch the father-son duo build, bike, and bicker...and bicker. The AOL spokesmen are so popular that die-hard fans—and even not-so-die-hard fans—stalk their Rock Tavern, N.Y., shop to see Jr. and Sr., the man behind the highly hyped, lazy-boy-kicking size 12s. **CHOP-SHOP CONFESSION** "We're starting to get sick of the theme bikes," admits Paul Jr., who as Orange County Choppers' chief designer has created more than 15 themed choppers, including the famed Fire, Spider-Man, and Statue of Liberty bikes. **SAY IT AIN'T SO!** It ain't. When Twentieth Century Fox came knocking, Paulie found that he still had a little theme-bike love left in him. "We're building a bike for *I, Robot* [starring Will Smith]. But it's a compromise: I decided that we're just going to build a freaky-looking, space-age bike and not try to get caught up too much in making it look like a robot." **SHIFTING GEARS, WHAT'S WITH THE FAMILY FEUDS** Survey says! Paul Jr.: "I blame the bikes. They always give us a reason to argue." Paul Sr.: "That and because you're kinda lazy." **NEXT** *Chopper*'s second season, airing Mondays at 10 p.m.

107 the cure

● music

AGE 26 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The Cure, whose moody grooves brightened many Goths' dark days in the '80s, are hitting the road with contemporary kindred spirits like Interpol and the Rapture (plus such underground all-stars as Melissa Auf der Maur) for the Curiosa Festival. **WHY TO SEE ALL 18 TOUR DATES** If you catch more than one show (the tour kicks off July 24), don't expect any repeat performances. "We tend to draw from about 75 to 100 songs," says singer Robert Smith. "And I generally write the set list 15 minutes before we go on." **NEXT** A new album, *The Cure*, drops June 29.

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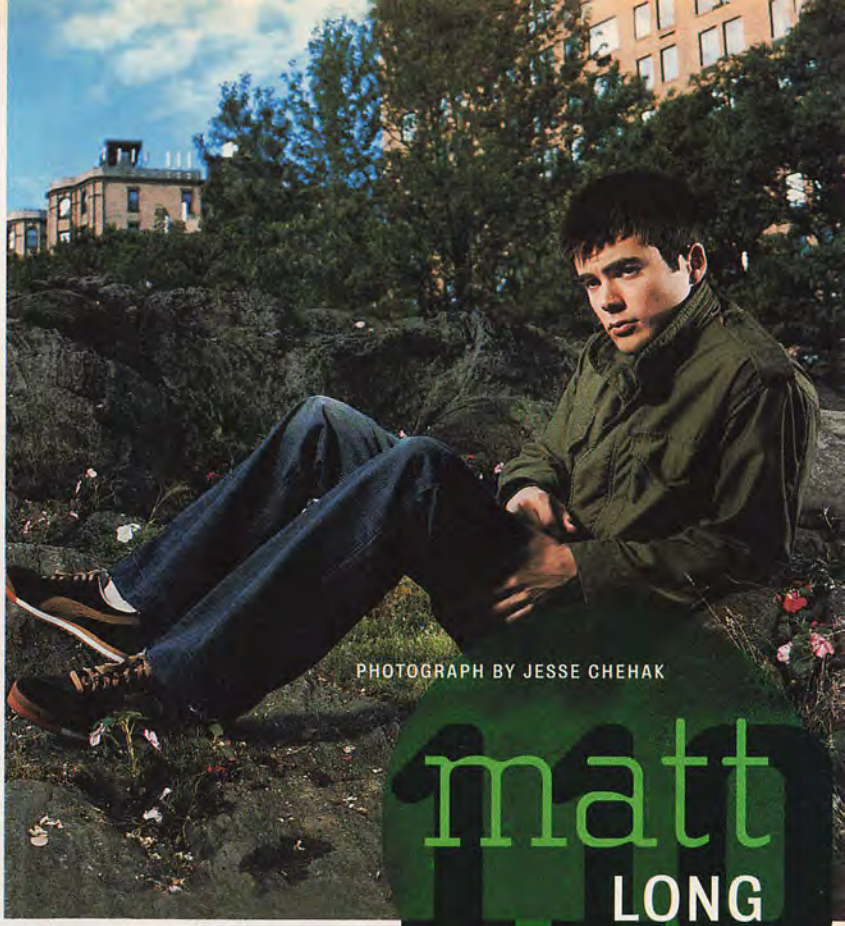
The Must List

108 brittany murphy ● movies

AGE 26 MUSTWORTHINESS After holding her own opposite Eminem in *8 Mile*, the giggly New Jersey native romances the tome in *Little Black Book*, which opens Aug. 6. Starring opposite Oscar winners Kathy Bates and Holly Hunter as a producer on a Jerry Springer–like talk show ("My Grandmother Was a Hooker!"), Murphy uncovers the secret life of her boyfriend (*Sex and the City*'s Ron Livingston) when she thumbs through his Palm Pilot. PALM PILOT OR BLACKBERRY "I own a BlackBerry. It's blue. So I call it a BlueBerry!" ON HER MUST LIST [The CD] *Carmen McRae Live at Birdland West* NEXT The dark thriller *Sin City*, codirected by Robert Rodriguez and Frank Miller; singing a Queen ditty and "Boogie Wonderland" as a penguin in George Miller's animated *Happy Feet* (due in 2006); "and I'm recording an album." WAIT! REALLY? CAN SHE TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT IT? "No" [*big giggle*].

DEADWOOD 109 ● television

AGE 1 WHAT Its opening credits. MUSTWORTHINESS In murky sepia tones, a horse gallops through mud, poker cards are dealt, and shots of whiskey are poured, while a guitar and fiddle moan softly in the background. For a Western, this ain't your father's *Bonanza*–type entrance. QUICK DRAW Working with design company A52, exec producer Gregg Fienberg says he and a two-man crew shot the horse footage "in 20 minutes on the last day of filming the pilot. We didn't want any traditional sort of Western opening—blazing guns, pictures of the stars. We wanted atmosphere." DON'T BUG THEM "The folks at A52, who also did the credits for HBO's *Carnivàle*, had this great footage of insects swarming all over each other that I really wanted to use, but that just became too abstract: insects as a metaphor for a swarming town? So we agreed on the horse." As they said in the *Mr. Ed* theme song: Of course, of course.



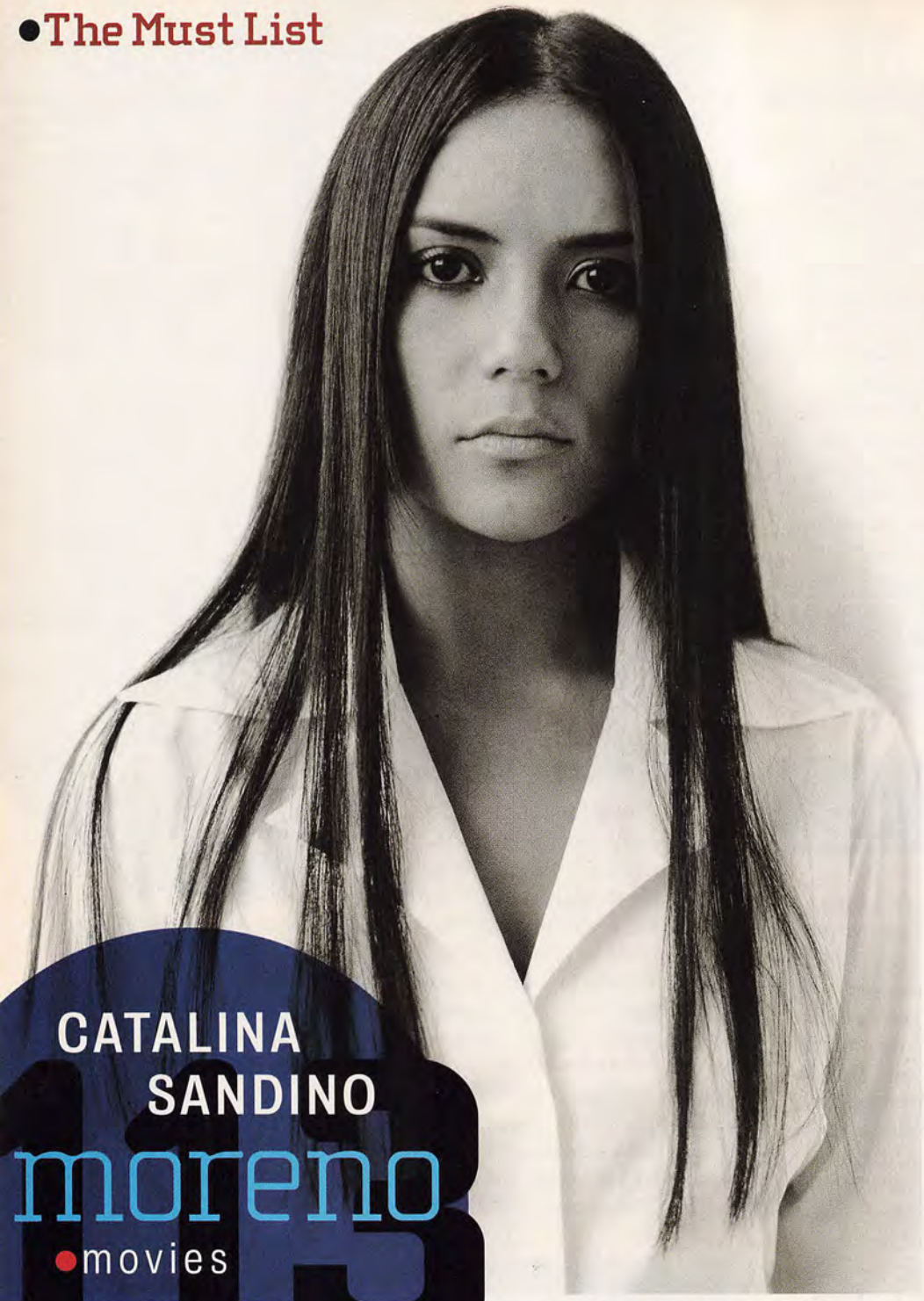
PHOTOGRAPH BY JESSE CHEHAK

matt LONG ● television

AGE 24 MUSTWORTHINESS Plucked from obscurity (okay, Kentucky via MTV), Long joins *Smallville*'s Tom Welling and *Everwood*'s Gregory Smith as a WB network BMOC, thanks to this fall's political coming-of-age teen drama *Jack & Bobby*. WAIT, IS HE THAT GUY...? Yes, he made his acting debut earlier this year in an MTV spring break Ice Breakers promo. ON HIS MUST LIST "As cliché as it sounds, Brad Pitt's had an amazing career.... Sure, he's this unbelievably good-looking guy, but he's also a phenomenal actor despite looking the way he does." DREAM COLLABORATORS John C. Reilly, Clint Eastwood, and Philip Seymour Hoffman. "But let's be honest...this is all so new to me, I'd be thrilled to work with anyone." WHEN NATURE CALLS "I watch the Discovery Channel and animal shows. I don't get much nature in [New York City]. I could go to Central Park and watch the squirrels, but they'd probably be wearing iPods and stuff." NEXT Season 1 of *Jack & Bobby*, Sundays at 9 p.m.

111–112 'anna' translators ● books

NAMES Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky AGES 61, 58 MUSTWORTHINESS Their award-winning translation of Leo Tolstoy's 19th-century love story is the latest selection of Oprah's Book Club—and the first one Winfrey has minted without having read. "It's been on my list for years, but I didn't do it because I was scared," Winfrey said on her show. ON OPRAH "I'd never seen her show," says Pevear, who's lived in France with wife Volokhonsky for 16 years. "We didn't quite know what it meant." Jokes Volokhonsky: "We were just these poor, ignorant provincials." NEXT Translations of a collection of Chekhov's short novels (due in August) and Tolstoy's *War and Peace* (due in 2007).



113

CATALINA SANDINO moreno

●movies

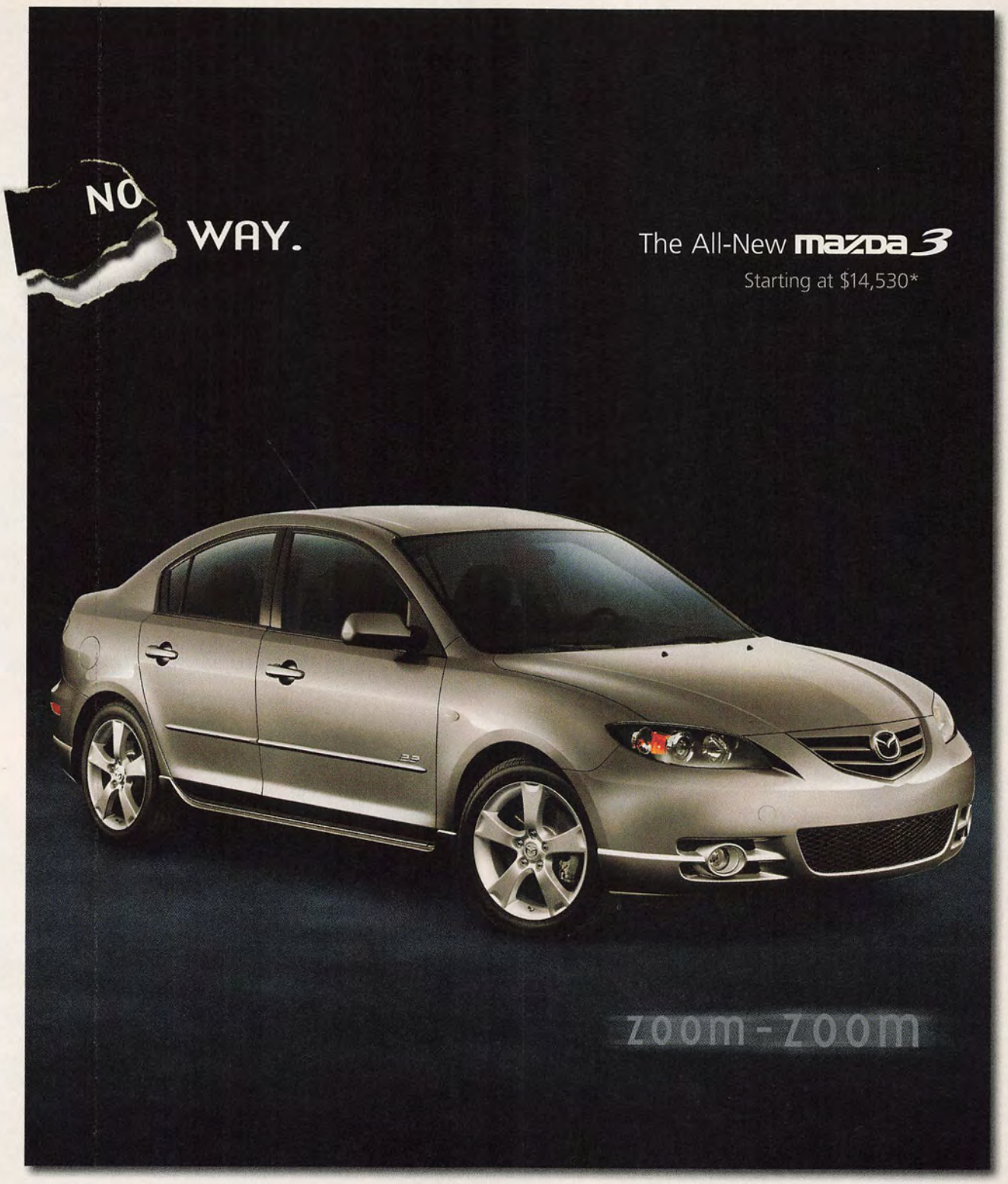
PHOTOGRAPH BY RICHARD PHIBBS

AGE 23 **MUSTWORTHINESS** On her first-ever film audition, the Colombia native landed the role of a stoic drug mule in *Maria Full of Grace*, stunned Sundance with her quiet bravado, and helped the film win an audience award. **BIG BREAK** While she took acting classes at a Bogotá theater, some anonymous supporter passed her name on to *Maria*'s casting agent. "I never knew who that person was, to give them a hug." **CULTURE SHOCK** Two years ago she was studying advertising at college because "if you do theater in Colombia you'll die from hunger. Now I'm living in New York City. It's changed my whole point of view on everything. Being independent, having a little apartment, cooking. In Colombia you live with your parents until you're 25 and get a job and then get married." **NEXT** She's waiting until *Maria*'s July 16 opening to start auditioning.

●television

114-115 siegfried & roy

AGES Siegfried: "I usually don't like to talk about age, but I think Cher is 70." Roy: "I'm still in the womb. Can you feel me kicking?" **MUSTWORTHINESS** Forget about the talking white tigers. The real breakout stars of NBC's animated comedy *Father of the Pride* (based on Siegfried & Roy's Vegas magic act) are the 'toon versions of the German tricksters, hilariously voiced by Dave Herman and Julian Holloway (top). **BEST CAREER ADVICE** Roy: "Be following your dreams. *Ja*. Unless it is the one where you go to school in your underwear and there's an exam you didn't study for." **WORST CAREER ADVICE** Siegfried: "My agent told me not to read for the part of Malcolm X." **BEST EXAMPLE OF CAREER SELF-SABOTAGE** Roy: "I'd have to say Heinrich, our gardener...tragic, what he did to that azalea plant." **YOU'D BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT ROY...** "Enjoys boxing," says Siegfried. "Not fisticuffs. Putting things in boxes and closing them for later." "*Ja*, I do," says Roy. **ON THEIR MUST LIST** Siegfried: "I'm not sure what you mean, but if you're going out I need milk and stamps." **NEXT** *Pride* debuts early fall on NBC.



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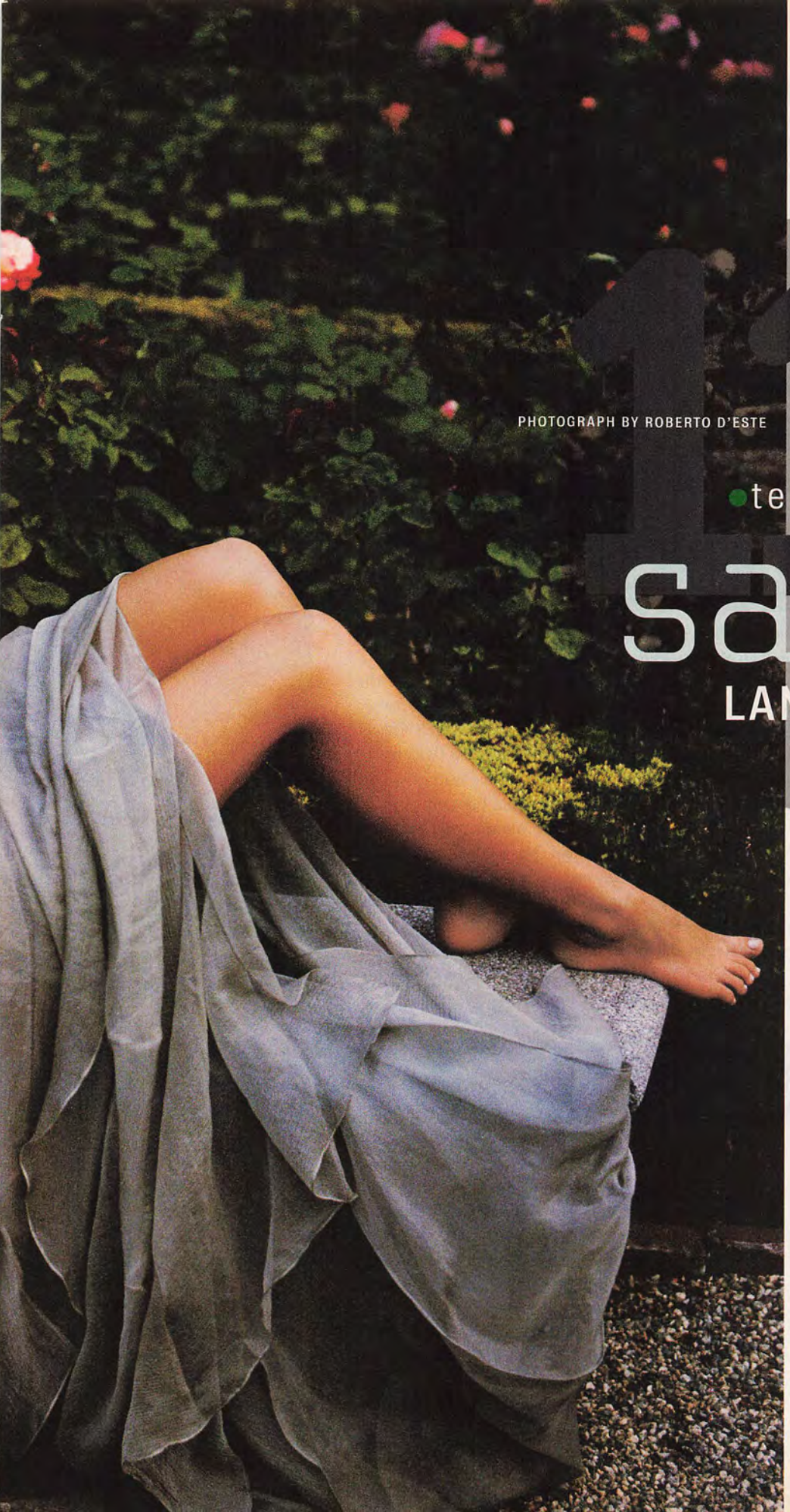


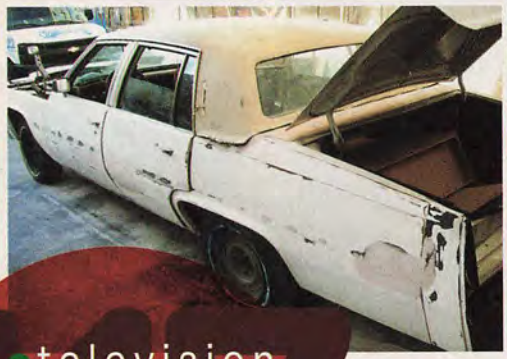
PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERTO D'ESTE

16

television

sarah LANCASTER

AGE 24 **MUSTWORTHINESS** She gently sexed up our precious burg of *Everwood* as the Ephram-deflowering, raspy-voiced, rock-band-fronting babysitter, Madison. Now she moves west to Sin City as a regular on CBS' Rob Lowe–Joe Pantoliano drama *dr. vegas*. **ON HER JAILBAIT LOVE INTEREST** "[Gregory Smith] is actually of age in real life, so I didn't feel so bad about myself." **YOU ALSO KNOW HER FROM...** *Saved by the Bell: The New Class*. Lancaster says that when she started at age 14, "I didn't know how to hit a mark; I didn't know anything about cameras. I didn't know how to act, either, but you'd smile, then they'd line you up like six ducks." **GAMBLING TIP** Her advice after two weeks of casino training to play down-on-her-luck dealer Veronica Harold: "The house always wins, so don't play," she says. "I'd rather go spend money on shoes." **NEXT** *dr. vegas* will air Fridays at 10 p.m. in September.



● television

117 pimp MY RIDE

MUSTWORTHINESS Ryan Friedlinghaus and his Inglewood, Calif., auto-blingage garage—clients include Shaq, 50 Cent, and host Xzibit—have turned MTV's *Pimp My Ride* into the most off-the-chain makeover show on the dial. **CAREER HIGH** "When Mattel said they wanted to do a toy deal. To have your own Hot Wheels is a really, really big thing." **TOUGHEST PIMP** The 1988 Daihatsu HiJet from episode 1. "It was real scary because we had just signed our deal with MTV. I'm like, 'Oh, my God, what did I get my guys into?' The state of the car was just beyond trash. We pretty much touched everything, from the suspension to the wheels and tires to the interior to the bodywork and the paint... And to be able to put 17-inch wheels on a little golf-cart-looking van was pretty crazy, too." **PRICIEST PIMP** The 1981 Pontiac Trans Am from episode 8 was blessed with $30,000 in improvements, including a laptop computer built into the glove compartment, an espresso machine in the front-seat armrest, and a mini-chandelier. **TOTALLY TRICKED-OUT RIDE WITH CRAPPY ENGINE OR A BASIC UGLY ONE THAT RUNS ABSOLUTELY PERFECTLY?** "Something totally tricked-out, of course. Can't be driving something stock." **NEXT** Season 2 of *Pimp* in September.

● books

118 handsome harry

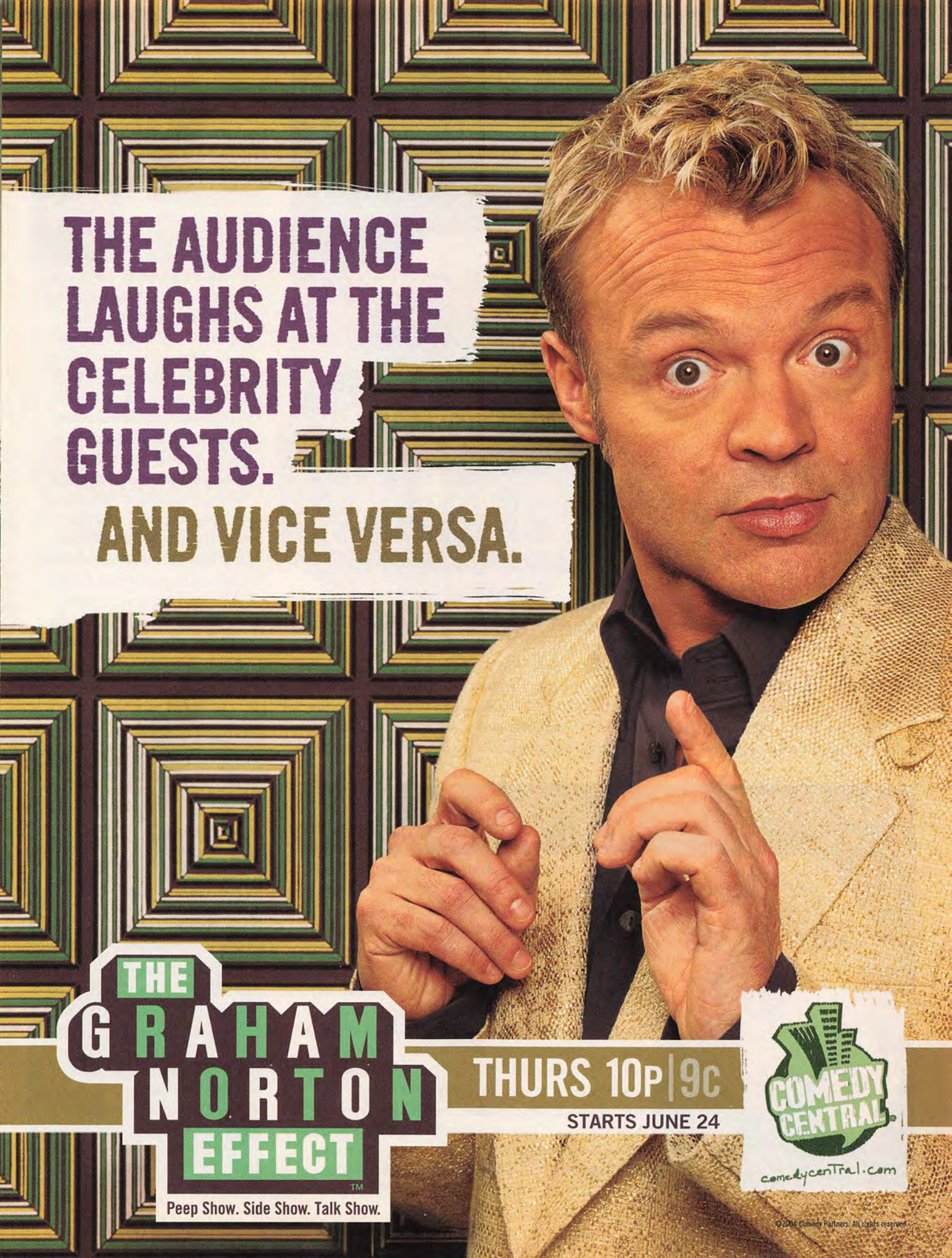
NAME Dillinger Gang bank robber Harry Pierpont. **AGE** 102 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Seventy years after he died in the Indiana electric chair, the Gang's leader roared back to life in James Carlos Blake's gritty, sexy eighth novel. "Writing is a great way to express things without having to do them," says Blake, 57, who focuses his books almost exclusively on outlaws. "I have a friend who said, 'Blake, it's a good thing you write about people who go out and shoot people or you'd be out shooting people.'" **ON HIS MUST LIST** Garrison Keillor: "He's a lot darker than people realize. I don't know how he's gotten away with this image as Midwestern bumpkin for so long." **WORST JOB** "I've been a snake catcher, a Volkswagen mechanic, and a plumbing apprentice, but the worst was teaching college." **NEXT** For Harry, not much; for Blake, a novel about world middleweight champion Stanley Ketchel, who was murdered in 1910 at age 24.

TOVAH FELDSHUH

Photograph by Len Irish

● stage 119

AGE 51 **MUSTWORTHINESS** A one-woman powerhouse in *Golda's Balcony*, she portrays Israeli prime minister Meir—and 38 other characters—during the 1973 Yom Kippur War. "As long as I'm going to be a Jewish mother," she says, "why be a local Jew? Go global." The role earned her the fourth Tony nomination of her 30-year career. **PLAY IT AGAIN, TOVAH** "I started as a classical pianist but I got too lonely. So I switched to plays." **1972: A *MIDSUMMER* NIGHTMARE** Feldshuh was a fairy in Shakespeare's *Dream* at Minneapolis' Guthrie Theater. "The director said, 'Why bother being an actor? Why don't you just become an accountant?' My heart stopped." **1973: A BROADWAY BOW** In the musical *Cyrano*, "I had one scene alone with Christopher Plummer where he kissed my hand. To this day, when he sees me, he still kisses my hand." **ON HER MUST LIST** To star in a TV series in New York City, write a biopic of *Washington Post* editor Katharine Graham, and, of course, tackle great stage roles like "Virginia Woolf, Cleopatra, even Saint Joan." **AMEN, SISTER!** "I'm little, I'm fierce, and I've had no plastic surgery." **NEXT** More *Golda's Balcony*.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120 SUPER SIZE ME'S artist

●movies

AGE 43 MUSTWORTHINESS In his 22-year career, notorious pop prankster Ron English has painted more than 1,000 illegal billboards. And the hit fast-food exposé *Super Size Me* wouldn't be half the fun without his outrageously sly parodies of a bloated Ronald McDonald. HE'S LOVING IT! "I just assumed McDonald's would sue and shut *Super Size Me* down. It's great because this is the way in a democracy to address corporations. They're huge, but not unstoppable." MISSION STATEMENT "To promote critical thinking." WHICH WILL GET YOU SUED BY KISS, King Features, Disney, the Van Gogh Foundation, the Warhol Foundation. NEXT Documentarian Pedro Carvajal, who spent 10 years following the artist, is working on the final edit of *POPaganda: The Art & Crimes of Ron English.*

CATE BLANCHETT

●movies 124

AGE 35 MUSTWORTHINESS With a range extending from ethereal elf queen (*Lord of the Rings*) to world-weary pioneer (*The Missing*), she's the next Meryl Streep. (She won't say it, but we will.) ON HER MUST LIST "I've been listening to Jim White—the CD is called *Drill a Hole in That Substrate and Tell Me What You See.*" AND ALSO Judy Davis, Frances McDormand, Liv Ullmann, Charlotte Rampling. "They're very independent and make personal choices. And Jane Fonda. *The China Syndrome* is amazing. It's so painfully naive. Now knowing what we know, it's all the more poignant." CAREER HIGH "This year was: Ron Howard in *The Missing*, then I had a couple kamikaze days with Jim Jarmusch on *Coffee and Cigarettes*, then *The Aviator*, then working with Wes Anderson, then I gave birth! The year started with a bang and ended with a *big* bang." NEXT The play *Hedda Gabler* in Sydney.

●television

121-122 nip/tuckers

NAMES Tom Burman, Bari Dreiband-Burman AGES 63, 53 MUSTWORTHINESS They put the nip/tuck in *Nip/Tuck*! The duo's touches are why the plastic surgery on FX's drama looks no different than the real deal on *Extreme Makeover*. ISN'T IT ROMANTIC Their two-decade-long business (and personal) partnership began on the 1982 film *Cat People* when Tom—a veteran makeup man who worked on the original *Planet of the Apes*—hired Bari to help with Nastassia Kinski's transformation into a feisty feline. "We knew immediately this was a lasting relationship," says Tom. WOULD THEY EVER CONSIDER SURGERY? Bari: "It's so matter-of-fact on *Nip/Tuck* I can't help but mull it over." Tom: "I don't want it. I'm gonna decay at the rate I've been decaying." NEXT Season 2 of *Nip/Tuck* airs Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on FX.

●stage

123 tonya pinkins

AGE 42 MUSTWORTHINESS She elicits tears and laughs as a morose maid in the Broadway musical *Caroline, or Change*. A 1992 Tony winner for *Jelly's Last Jam*, she moonlights on *All My Children* and teaches thesps "spiritual principles for real-world success" in Actorpreneur Attitude classes. IN HER SPARE TIME She's designing a line of homeopathic products. ON HER MUST LIST "I love Gabriel García Márquez and J.K. Rowling." BON VOYAGES "My mother says I was born a gypsy." Favorite spots: Bahia, Brazil; San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; and Paris. NEXT A role in *Romance & Cigarettes*.

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KRUMPING

● music 125

MUSTWORTHINESS Because dancers in clown makeup and rainbow Afro wigs are shaking their saggy satin booties like something is very wrong neurologically. **WHERE TO FIND IT** The superfast dancing has been featured in Missy Elliott's "I'm Really Hot" and the Black Eyed Peas' "Hey Mama" videos, and is the subject of photographer David LaChapelle's award-winning documentary short *Krumped*. **WHO'S RESPONSIBLE** L.A. entertainer Tommy the Clown. "Krumping is crazy dancing. I started dressing like a clown [for kids' parties] and combining it with hip-hop moves, and then in 1992 began teaching it to kids in South Central to channel their negative energy. I wasn't thinking about videos." Maybe not, but the dancing has become a full-fledged craze in Compton and South Central, with rival clown gangs staging competitions. **THE BIRTH OF AN ADJECTIVE** "When one of my students started going wild, we'd say, 'Man, he's getting krumped.' Like going nuts."

126 snl's debbie downer

● television

NAME Rachel Dratch **AGE** 38 **MUSTWORTHINESS** For giving us the funniest TV moment all year with the May 1 *SNL* skit "Debbie Downer," about a frowny frump who ruins her family's trip to Disney World with an impressive array of conversation-killing asides (i.e., "Did you guys hear about that train explosion in northern Korea?")—punctuated by *wah-wah* trumpet refrains. But what elevated Debbie from funny to *you gotta see this* classic was the inability of the cast (Jimmy Fallon, Amy Poehler, Horatio Sanz, Fred Armisen, and host Lindsay Lohan) to keep a straight face; it started as a tiny lip quiver from Dratch and devolved into a tear-spouting, shoulder-shaking riot. **SERIOUSLY, WHAT HAPPENED?** "I don't really know," admits Dratch, who cowrote the sketch with Paula Pell. "I was freaking out in my head, like, Get it together! The worst was when I had to say, 'It's official—I can't have children.' I was like, Stick the landing! But I just couldn't. I was looking at Jimmy like, 'Help me!'" ***DEBBIE DOWNER: THE MOVIE*. DISCUSS.** "Of course I'd want to be in a movie," jokes Dratch. "I'll start thinking about it." **ON HER MUST LIST** "Bill Murray, because he made the crossover. He's sort of an idol for all of us on *SNL*." **NEXT** Both Dratch *and* Ms. Downer return to *SNL* next season. "Hopefully I'll be able to keep a straight face this time." *Wah-wah!*

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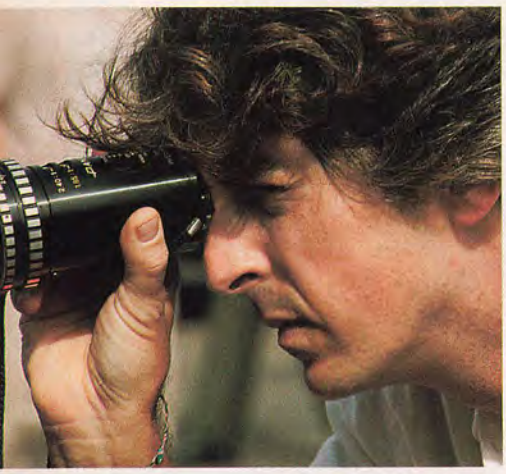

127. ●movies
128. indie DIRECTORS

ALEXANDER PAYNE

AGE 43 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Whether it's high school politics (*Election*) or a retired insurance man's spiritual angst (*About Schmidt*), Payne wades into the backwaters of American life and dredges up dark, caustic comedy. In *Sideways*, a middle-aged failed novelist (Paul Giamatti) and his soon-to-wed, washed-up actor buddy (Thomas Haden Church) cling desperately to their youth on a weeklong booze-soaked road trip. **WHAT'S WITH ALL THE MIDLIFE CRISES?** "I think any thinking person always feels him- or herself in some degree of crisis," Payne says. **AND HIMSELF?** "I'm feeling pretty good, actually." **NEXT** *Sideways* hits theaters this fall.

RICHARD LINKLATER

AGE 43 **MUSTWORTHINESS** Don't be fooled by his aw-shucks demeanor. The cinematic godfather of Austin is a genuine maverick who, in films like *Slacker*, *Dazed and Confused*, and *Waking Life*, never compromises his quirky outsider vision. As a follow-up to his biggest hit, *School of Rock*, he returns to his indie roots with this summer's unlikeliest and most soulful sequel, the low-budget romantic talkfest *Before Sunset*, with Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy reprising their roles from 1995's *Before Sunrise*. **WHICH WAS, WHAT, NINE YEARS AGO?** "Hollywood wasn't exactly beating down our door for a sequel," Linklater admits. "It's your classic labor-of-love-type thing." **NEXT** An adaptation of Philip K. Dick's novel *A Scanner Darkly*, starring Keanu Reeves and Winona Ryder.

WES ANDERSON

AGE 35 **MUSTWORTHINESS** He makes his oddballs, like the inept would-be criminals of *Bottle Rocket* and the quixotic prep-school misfit of *Rushmore*, endearing, heroic, and downright cool. His upcoming comedy, *The Life Aquatic*, due in December, stars Bill Murray as an oceanographer-filmmaker (think Jacques Cousteau crossed with, well, Bill Murray) who gets swept up in an adventure with costars Owen Wilson, Cate Blanchett, and Anjelica Huston. **ON HIS MUST LIST** Brazilian musician-actor Seu Jorge. "He was in *City of God*, and now he's in our movie playing a character named Pelé. We got all these David Bowie songs for the soundtrack, and he adapted them into Portuguese and sings them throughout the movie." **NEXT** He may begin work on an animated adaptation of Roald Dahl's children's story *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.

130 farscape ●television

AGE 5 **MUSTWORTHINESS** The beloved, canceled series ('99–03) about an astronaut trapped in another galaxy returns to Sci Fi Channel with the new miniseries *Farscape: The Peacekeeper Wars*. **HOW THE FANS BROUGHT BACK THE SHOW** "They really have been in everybody's face—in an amazing way," says exec producer Brian Henson. "There were financiers that came to me because they heard about it from the fans, and that's why this became possible." **FINE, BUT WHAT HAPPENS?** "Everything we did was to find ways to make this story more epic, more compelling, more romantic," says Henson. "Crichton and Aeryn are reconstituted from their crystallized state very early. They're now engaged, but then they find out that the galaxy has fallen into a huge intergalactic war between the Peacekeepers and the Scarrens." **WHERE ELSE CAN *FARSCAPE* GO?** "This will bring this series to an end of a chapter," hints Henson. "But I don't think any of us are ready to drop *Farscape*." **NEXT** The mini airs in October.

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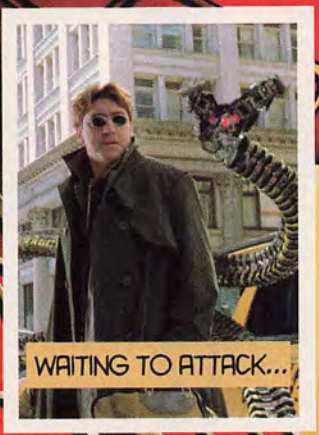

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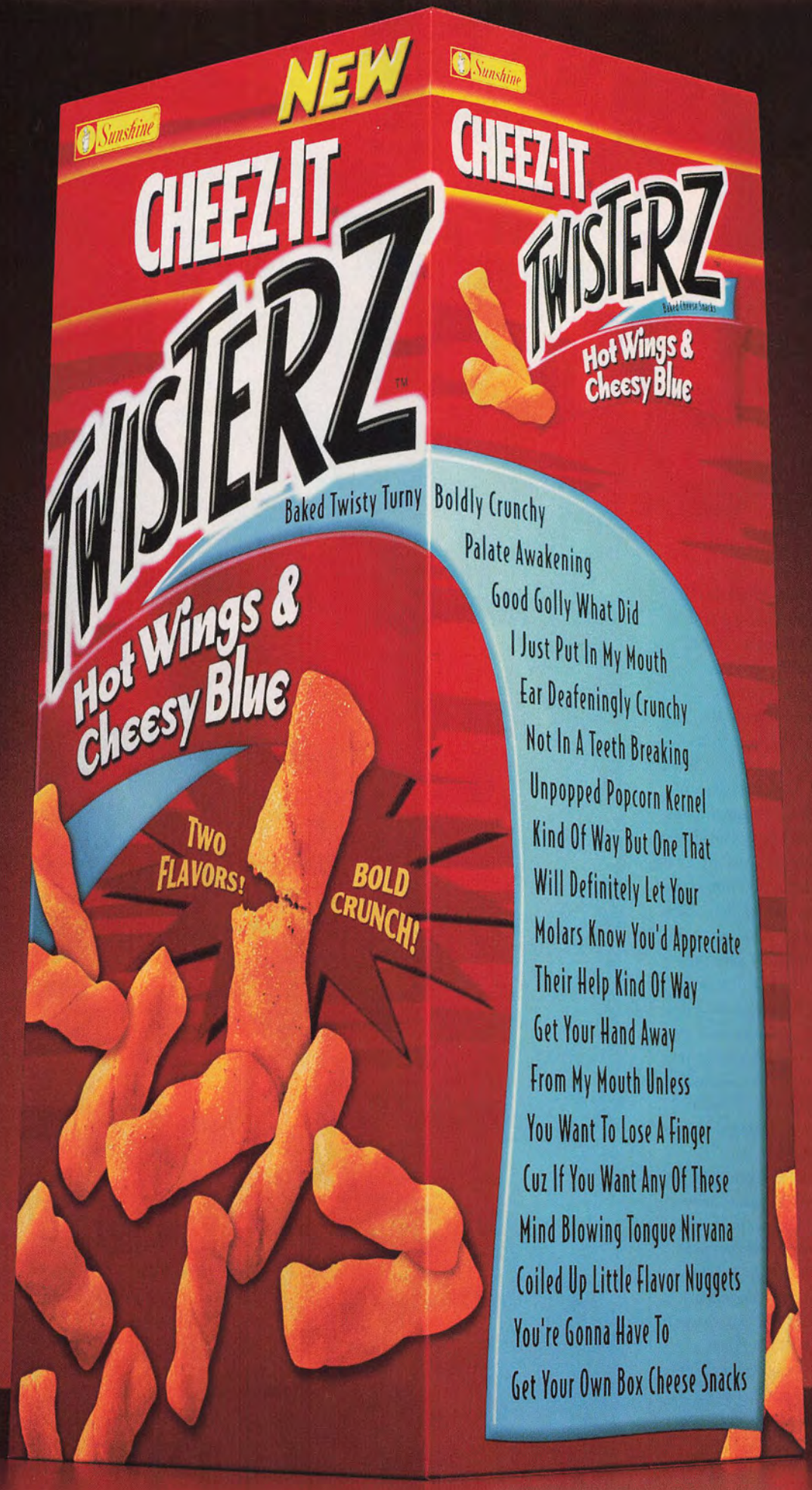

131 FAT albert 137 CAST

PHOTOGRAPH BY JUSTIN STEPHENS

NAMES/AGES Jermaine Williams (Mush Mouth), 21; Marques Houston (Dumb Donald), 22; Aaron Frazier (Weird Harold), 24; Shedrack Anderson (Rudy), 27; Alphonso McAuley (Bucky), 21; Keith Robinson (Bill), 30; Kenan Thompson (Fat Albert), 26. **MUSTWORTHINESS** Hey hey hey! What took you so long? After two years of script rewrites, director drama, and a production halt, Bill Cosby's lovable fatty and the Junkyard Gang are living large in a live-action adaptation of the Saturday-morning cartoon. Plus, casting Thompson—a Nickelodeon mainstay with a serious kiddie following himself—as the fat guy is pretty phat. **A BIG FAT CONFESSION (THE LAST FAT JOKE, WE PROMISE)** "I don't even remember the cartoon," says newcomer McAuley of *Albert*, which debuted in 1972 and lasted 12 years. "I had to watch some [episodes] on tape because it was *waaay* before my time." **CLOTHES CALL, PART 1** "Damn, that fat suit is hot," gripes Thompson, now a regular on *SNL*. "I went through, like, two pairs of T-shirts and shorts a day." **CLOTHES CALL, PART 2** "That wool mask definitely works against me," says Houston (*You Got Served*). **ON THEIR MUST LISTS** "OutKast, Bernie Mac, and, yes, I even watch *MADtv*," says Thompson. **NEXT** *Fat Albert* hits theaters this Christmas.

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EDITOR Henry Goldblatt **WRITERS AND REPORTERS** Jennifer Armstrong, Rebecca Ascher-Walsh, Kristen Baldwin, Karyn L. Barr, Melissa Rose Bernardo, Mandi Bierly, Liane Bonin, Bob Cannon, Clarissa Cruz, Neil Drumming, Michael Endelman, Amy Feitelberg, Kristina Feliciano, Daniel Fierman, Raymond Fiore, Gillian Flynn, Nicholas Fonseca, Peter Gerstenzang, Nisha Gopalan, Kathy Henderson, Jeff Jensen, Dave Karger, Paul S. Katz, Wook Kim, Gregory Kirschling, Michelle Kung, Jeff Labrecque, Claire Lui, Emily Mead, Nancy Miller, Rachel Orvino, Jennifer Reese, Lynette Rice, Joshua Rich, Michele Romero, Dalton Ross, Josh Rottenberg, Mary Kaye Schilling, Missy Schwartz, Jessica Shaw, Nancy Sidewater, Dan Snierson, Ken Tucker, Karen Valby, Alynda Wheat, Chris Willman, Josh Wolk **PHOTO RESEARCHER** Kristine Chin

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Please put your seat backs and illegal immigrants in their full, upright positions

Boring Pass

Tom Hanks sits and delivers for Steven Spielberg in the earthbound *The Terminal*. by Owen Gleiberman

Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Stanley Tucci
PG-13, 128 mins. (DreamWorks)

Even if you're scared of flying, an airport can be an odd sort of comfort zone. The grayish-white plastic walls are soothing and womblike. The magazine stores and fast-food outlets, the stands dispensing waxy Danish and borderline undrinkable coffee all feel a little less sterile than they might elsewhere. They're not just ho-hum businesses—they're Things to Do. Regardless of who you are, being in an airport always makes you feel like a bit of a kid. Yet there's a flip side. Look up at one of the monitors and discover that the flight you're on has been delayed for several hours, and the comfortable numbness can turn stultifying. Suddenly, the tranquil travel mall has become a prison.

I experienced both of those sensations, to varying degrees, while watching Steven Spielberg's *The Terminal*, a movie about a man who gets stuck at New York's JFK International Airport, only to see the giant hub become his holding cell, his purgatory, and his home. After arriving at his gate, Viktor Navorski (Tom Hanks), an eager, disheveled traveler from Eastern Europe, is getting ready to pass through customs when he learns that he can't go anywhere. There has been a military coup in his native (and fictional) country of Krakozhia, and his passport is no longer valid. Officially, he's a "citizen of nowhere," ordered to stay within the confines of the International Transit Lounge. Viktor, who speaks fragments of English, carries an old Planters peanuts tin around with him, and its mystery contents, we gather, are connected to the reason for his journey. Will he ever make it to Manhattan—or, more precisely, to the Ramada Inn on Lexington Avenue? Oh, the sadness, the irony of it! He has arrived to fulfill his dream in America, and they won't even let him in.

You'd think it would be a temporary problem. The snarly, rule-bound security officer, Frank Dixon (Stanley Tucci), would like to be rid of Viktor; he even tries to goad him into escaping. But Viktor is a dutiful and passive soul, and he won't venture out. He remains at the airport in limbo, a walking bureaucratic snafu, and the hours stretch into days, weeks, months. Hanks, throwing out fractured syllables of Krakozhian without ever quite playing his accent for cheap laughs, cultivates an honorable workingman's slouch, and he lowers his eyebrows into a squint of gentle perplexity. He makes Viktor into a post-Soviet Chaplinesque "little man."

Viktor is given food vouchers, which he promptly loses, and he gets shunted around without any thought to his physical comfort. Yet he takes all of it in stride. It's a subliminal joke that he never gets the least bit upset or exasperated. Having been raised, or so we presume, within the dilapidated remnants of a joyless, authoritarian

Speed Racer of the Week

WILL FERRELL

Yes, but can he squeeze behind the wheel? The zany funnyman will cowrite and star in *Talladega Nights*, a world-of-stock-car-racing comedy tentatively scheduled for 2006.

ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT DE MICHIEL; *THE TERMINAL*: MELINDA SUE GORDON

land, Viktor has learned to accept his lot in life, and so he asks for nothing. He's an endlessly patient, potato-headed good guy—a lumpen saint with no visible anger or sexual appetite. He's quaintly likable. He's also a little tedious. *The Terminal* has a wan and precious pseudo-charm, but it's hard to shake the feeling that Spielberg, in essence, is doing what you do when you sit around an airport. He's killing time.

There's a bare-bones castaway logic to Viktor's plight. He returns stray baggage carts for the reward of a quarter apiece, and he appears to hone his English by reading the ticker on TV news channels. But Spielberg, working from a script by Sacha Gervasi and Jeff Nathanson (the story is by Gervasi and *The Truman Show*'s Andrew Niccol), turns Viktor's stay at JFK mostly into a fish-out-of-water lark. He has made a hermetic *Krakozhia on the Hudson*. Viktor gets to know a coyly hostile Indian sanitation worker (Kumar Pallana), who enjoys watching people slip on freshly cleaned floors, and he agrees to play Cupid for Enrique (Diego Luna), who's secretly in love with a sexy customs officer (the vibrant Zoë Saldana). Viktor also develops a chaste flirtation of his own: He keeps running into Amelia (Catherine Zeta-Jones), a breathless flight attendant whose romantic life is a case study in doormat cluelessness. She is drawn, of course, to Viktor's deep-down nobility, yet watching this character, whose vulnerable flightiness marks her as a relic of the Diane Keaton–Goldie Hawn heyday, I felt as if Spielberg needed to get out more. I didn't mind *The Terminal*, but I didn't really buy it, either. Spielberg has crafted the film with a proficiency as seamless, and impersonal, as the setting, and you may feel, after a while, that you're longing for your departure time. **C+**

Oh, get a room

THE NOTEBOOK

Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams

PG-13, 121 mins. (New Line)

Love will find a way... to tick you off in this sappy romance

You know what you want to see if you want to see *The Notebook*. Even if you're not familiar with the bosom-heaving beach-read 1996 bestseller by Nicholas Sparks on which it's based, you're ready for a love story so swollen that the heavens open up, along with your tear ducts. You want to see girls in pretty 1940s dresses, soldiers in stirring World War II uniforms, handsome automobiles and equally handsome Southern landscapes. You want to see romance overcome adversity the way it's not always guaranteed to in more contemporary movies, and even less often in life. You want to root for Noah (Ryan Gosling) the poor boy and Allie (Rachel McAdams) the rich girl to triumph over everything that traditionally stands in the way of poor boys and rich girls ending up together, including a disapproving mother (Joan Allen) and a more socio-economically appropriate fiancé (James Marsden) in the wings. A clinching kiss in the pouring rain would be nice; so would the chaste outlines of naked embrace and ardent letters that never reach their intended recipient until years later. Cinematic understatement carries no fetishistic allure for you.

It does for me, but let's set that aside. The young lovers played by Gosling and McAdams are the best part of Nick Cassavetes' florid production, from a screenplay by *The Legend of Bagger Vance* overstater Jeremy Leven. Gosling, the magnetic discovery from *The Believer*, and McAdams, who played a perfect Plastic in *Mean Girls*, make a

Critical Mass

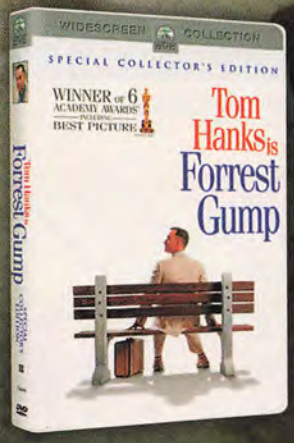
Here's how a sampling of critics from across the country grade 10 current releases.

	JAMI BERNARD N.Y. Daily News	TY BURR Boston Globe	MIKE CLARK USA Today	JOANNA CONNORS Cleveland Plain Dealer	ROGER EBERT Chicago Sun-Times	LIAM LACEY Toronto Globe and Mail	MICK LASALLE San Francisco Chronicle	TODD McCARTHY Variety	CARRIE RICKEY Philadelphia Inquirer	RENE RODRIGUEZ The Miami Herald	ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY	EW READERS*	CRITICS' AVERAGE
BAADASSSSS!	—	A-	B	—	A-	B+	B	B-	B	—	A-	B	B+
CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK	C	C+	—	—	C-	—	D	—	D+	C-	C	C	C-
DAY AFTER TOMORROW	C+	C+	C-	C+	B-	C	B	C+	C	D	C+	B	C+
GARFIELD: THE MOVIE	D	D	—	—	B	C-	—	—	C-	C-	C-	C	C-
▲ HARRY POTTER...	A-	B+	B	A	A-	A-	B-	A-	B+	B+	B+	A-	B+
NAPOLEON DYNAMITE	D	B	C+	B+	C	C	—	—	—	—	C-	B	C+
SAVED!	—	—	C+	A-	B	—	B	—	C+	—	B	B+	B
SHREK 2	A-	B	B	B	B+	B	C+	B	A-	B-	A-	A-	B
THE STEPFORD WIVES	B-	B	B-	—	B-	D	C+	—	C+	C	C	B-	C+
SUPER SIZE ME	B+	B+	B	—	B	B+	B+	—	A-	—	A	A-	B+

*EW READER GRADES come from the Front Row, EW's online reader panel. If you'd like to join, go to frontrowpanel.com/join.

TEN YEARS LATER, AND STILL RUNNING.

Happy 10th Anniversary, Forrest.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comely couple, their chemistry as natural as the story is rigged. They are, however and alas, only half the love story; they're the photogenic flashback.

The present takes place at a genteel nursing home, where an old duffer named Duke (James Garner) reads the ballad of Noah and Allie from a notebook to an addled old bird, also named Allie (Gena Rowlands, mother of the director), whose memory has been snapped by the cruelties of Alzheimer's disease. Yet as old Allie listens to the legend of the other, younger Allie and her sweetheart, her fog occasionally, briefly clears. Could she be, do you think...? And could he...?

Argh, must they be...? You need to believe this if you want to believe *The Notebook*: that love works miracles. That memories never die. And that older, exceedingly well-preserved actors exhibit dignity and bravery, rather than faint creepiness and dissimulation, when they pretend so strenuously to be old, unpreserved specimens who refuse to be conquered by senility of heart, mind, or story. **C+** —*Lisa Schwarzbaum*

Welcome to the jungle, they've got fur and games

TWO BROTHERS

Guy Pearce, tigers
PG, 105 mins. (Universal)

Colonial imperialism meets cuddly tigers. Awwwwww...*cute*.

Jean-Jacques Annaud, the nature-smitten French director of the superb 1989 ursine paean *The Bear*, returns to the wild with *Two Brothers*; the siblings in this musky live-action jungle story are real tiger cubs, distinct of character. One's bold, the other isn't, and when they're separated by fate and the no-good caprices of man, we wait, rooting for the moment in tiger adulthood when the pair are bound to meet again.

That we do root—that Annaud and his deft production team create believable dramatic characters without compromising the dignity of the animals they've borrowed as stars—is the striking (and sometimes unnerving) achievement of a film that also swoops and loops through fairy-tale hoops. The setting is an exotic Southeast Asian land of beautifully ruined temples and benignly foolish hunters and colonialists (filmed in Cambodia and Thailand); the time is semi-long ago, when white men still kicked back with phonographs in their tents; and the accented speeches of the human players are succulent, none more so than that of Guy Pearce in the admonitory role of a hunter who puts down his rifle when born again as a wildlife conservationist—as Annaud means us all to be. **B+** —*LS*

I'LL SLEEP WHEN I'M DEAD

Clive Owen, Malcolm McDowell, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Charlotte Rampling

R, 103 mins. (Paramount Classics)

Clive Owen sweetens a pungent British criminal odyssey

There's a special tradition of nastiness in English gangster films: It's as if the Brits, given the opportunity to get violent, enjoy spitting with extra relish on their own civility. In Mike Hodges' *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*, Malcolm McDowell, as a London kingpin, decides to tamp down an underworld dabbler (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) who has been strutting around town selling drugs on the side, and the punishment isn't pretty: McDowell rapes him. An act of "discipline" that would look only mildly shocking in prison attains a singular brute ugliness.

I don't want to reveal much more of what happens in *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*, except to say that the punishment has an effect even worse than intended. That's why Clive Owen, as the kid's older brother, a former gangster who has had some sort of breakdown and has been hiding out in the country for three years, must return to London to set things right. Hodges, whose appetite for sleaze is matched by his insistence on honor among scoundrels, perfected this sort of thing more than 30 years ago in the great Michael Caine thriller *Get Carter*, and now, at 72, he still knows how to unspool a mystery with a hypnotic pace of sadistic intrigue. There's a squeamish strain of homophobia in the way that *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead* plays out, yet the film is held together by Clive Owen, who spends most of his time on screen hidden beneath matted hair and a scruffy beard but still has more aura than any actor around. **B+** —*OG*

Owen in the wind

Catch anything? No, you? No. Fishing sucks.

SEDUCING DOCTOR LEWIS

Raymond Bouchard, David Boutin

Unrated, 110 mins. (Wellspring)

Nothing unites a town like lies and desperation

In Jean-François Pouliot's internationally charming, award-laden comedy *Seducing Doctor Lewis*, a guppy-size French Canadian fishing village in need of a resident doctor welcomes a smooth Montreal plastic surgeon offering a month's medical services to expunge a minor drug charge—very *Northern Exposure*. But while Dr. Christopher Lewis (David Boutin) plans a short stay, the citizenry, led by the town's wily mayor (Raymond Bouchard), scheme to ensure longer-term commitment: They reinvent themselves as an irresistible, quaintly authentic Eden built on lies—very *Waking Ned Devine*. There's shrewd wit to Pouliot's gentle, no-bull farce. **B+** —*LS*

FATHER AND SON

Andrey Schetinin, Aleksey Neymyshev

Unrated, 84 mins. (Wellspring)

Glacial Russian drama about mourning? Good times.

In 1996, the Russian director Alexander Sokurov made *Mother and Son*, a painterly, nearly wordless swoon of a movie in which a man ushered his mother into death. It had a trancelike tedium that was just austere enough to win the praise of Susan Sontag, yet its images have never left me. *Father and Son*, Sokurov's new companion piece, has the tedium without the trance. The father (Andrey Schetinin), a former soldier, is still in mourning over his wife's death. His son (Aleksey Neymyshev) craves something...but what? "A father's love crucifies," observes the younger man, but there is scarcely the energy in the film to mount a crucifixion, emotional or otherwise. **C–** —*OG*

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ASK THE CRITIC Lisa Schwarzbaum and Owen Gleiberman

Déjà Review

What is the one movie you wish you could have reviewed instead of your counterpart? —*T.M. Schwochert*

Sylvia and *Bamboozled*: Two great tastes that taste great together

LISA Just one? Delightful as our working relationship is, you understand, we're hogs like all other critics about wanting to weigh in on the movies that matter to us. And the desire hits me fullest when my esteemed colleague is inexplicably soft or hard on something I think deserves quite the opposite touch. I mean, an A– for that shellacked and damp-mopped literary biopic *Sylvia*, with its thin, cracked veneer of psychoanalysis? Yet a D for *Bad Santa*, an anarchic comedy that incinerates all 'tis-the-season hypocrisy in a stunning conflagration of bad taste and great nerve? I honor Owen's interesting arguments—and wish I could have set the records straight.

OWEN Ditto on the deep respect for my colleague—and my desire to right the record when she just gets it so wrong! The most flat-out misunderstood film of the last 15 years is Spike Lee's scandalous and visionary *Bamboozled*. Lisa, in her review, dismissed the movie as a preachy harangue, but I would have loved to deconstruct the cathartic shock value of Lee's suck-in-your-breath-funny, let-the-N-word-fly *Network*, in which a self-loathing executive (Damon Wayans) launches a "new millennium" minstrel show starring the eerily exuberant Savion Glover and Tommy Davidson. Lee doesn't just play the race card; he shuffles the entire deck of American racism in your face. I really think you missed this one, Lisa—but then, I'd say the same for virtually every critic around.

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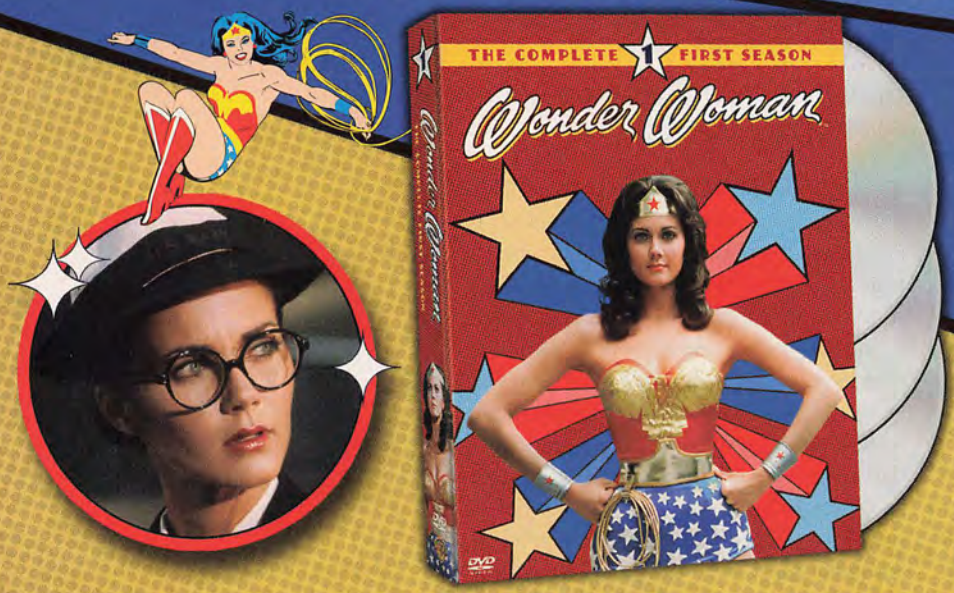

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Now Playing

BAADASSSSS! *R, 108 mins.* Mario Van Peebles sports an attitude of hungry-eyed defiance to play his father, Melvin Van Peebles, during the making of *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* (1971). **A–** (#768, June 4) —*OG*

BUKOWSKI: BORN INTO THIS *Unrated, 108 mins.* A beautifully crafted documentary that captures the Los Angeles writer Charles Bukowski in all his cussed, lecherous, alcoholic glory. **A** (#770, June 18) —*OG*

THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK *PG-13, 115 mins.* Lovingly photographed hardware and mortal combat. Vin Diesel stars in a sequel to *Pitch Black*—and by now, there isn't a line of dialogue, no matter how trivial, that this thick-featured Gollum on 'roids wouldn't dare to overdo in his "threatening" mush-mouthed monotone. **C** (#770, June 18) —*OG*

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW *PG-13, 122 mins.* A snowshoe-stomping eco-disaster flick about a flash ice age that freezes New York City. It's death by extravagant F/X and drizzly speechifying. **C+** (#768, June 4) —*LS*

THE FIVE OBSTRUCTIONS *Unrated, 90 mins.* Danish director Lars von Trier challenges his former mentor Jorgen Leth to remake a 1967 short in five ways. The result is eager, playful, and inspired. **A** (#769, June 11) —*OG*

GARFIELD: THE MOVIE *PG, 93 mins.* One very long stupid pet trick. On paper, at least, Bill Murray as the voice of Garfield, the comic-strip fat cat, sounded like an inspired idea. But Murray has been given nothing to deliver other than a series of exceedingly lame, tyke-friendly wisecracks. **C–** (#770, June 18) —*OG*

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN *PG, 141 mins.* The first movie in the series with fear and wonder in its bones. As Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) faces down assorted foes, director Alfonso Cuarón gets J.K. Rowling's enchanted offhandedness on screen. **B+** (#769, June 11) —*OG*

NAPOLEON DYNAMITE *PG, 86 mins.* The humiliations and triumphs of an Idaho high school geek and his oddball friends and family are interchangeably insignificant in this faux-cornpone indie comedy—leaving audiences free to laugh without caring. **C–** (#770, June 18) —*LS*

RAISING HELEN *PG-13, 114 mins.* A comedy that says women can have it all—but shouldn't try to. **C+** (#768, June 4) —*OG*

SAVED! *PG-13, 92 mins.* A clever teen flick set at a Christian high school. **B** (#768, June 4) —*OG*

SHREK 2 *PG, 93 mins.* It works overtime to turn Shrek (Mike Myers) into a self-doubting monster again, but the animators are masters of the free-association zap. **A–** (#767, May 28) —*OG*

THE STEPFORD WIVES *PG-13, 93 mins.* Heterosexuals are, by implication, the new robots in a squandered remake of the 1975 feminist satire, now marooned in a swamp of camp inconsequentiality. Nicole Kidman stars, but Bette Midler gets all the punchlines. **C** (#770, June 18) —*LS*

THE STORY OF THE WEEPING CAMEL *PG, 90 mins.* A lilting tale of Mongolian nomads. **A–** (#769, June 11) —*LS*

SUPER SIZE ME *Unrated, 96 mins.* Director Morgan Spurlock lays bare the insidiousness of American fast-food culture. **A** (#765, May 14) —*OG*

Box Office

GARFIELD: THE MOVIE

FAB FIVE

First, a shout out to *Shrek 2* (No. 3) for becoming the largest-grossing animated film ever (*ever*!), besting *Finding Nemo*'s $339.7 million gross. Second, kudos to Vin Diesel for proving that he's still got some box office fuel in the tank, nabbing $24.3 million for *The Chronicles of Riddick* (No. 2). And Bill Murray proves once again he's the cat's meow, as *Garfield* (No. 4) scratched $21.7 million from America's kiddies. But the biggest surprise was *The Stepford Wives* (No. 5), which overcame mediocre reviews to average $7,003 per screen, making this only the second weekend in all of recorded history that the top 5 each topped $20 million.

TOP 20		WEEKEND GROSS*	NUMBER OF SITES†	WEEKEND PER-SITE AVERAGE	PECENTAGE CHANGE	WEEKS IN RELEASE	GROSS TO DATE
1	HARRY POTTER...	$34.9	3,855	$9,050	–63	2	$158.0
2	CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK	$24.3	2,757	$8,810	—	1	$24.3
3	SHREK 2	$23.3	3,843	$6,067	–39	4	$353.3
4	GARFIELD: THE MOVIE	$21.7	3,094	$7,022	—	1	$21.7
5	THE STEPFORD WIVES	$21.4	3,057	$7,003	—	1	$21.4
6	THE DAY AFTER...	$14.5	3,210	$4,529	–48	3	$153.1
7	RAISING HELEN	$3.7	2,103	$1,762	–43	3	$31.3
8	TROY	$3.4	2,003	$1,706	–43	5	$125.6
9	SAVED!	$2.5	589	$4,304	+645	3	$3.7
10	MEAN GIRLS	$1.5	944	$1,574	–49	7	$81.3
11	VAN HELSING	$1.2	1,034	$1,155	–51	6	$117.0
12	SOUL PLANE	$0.9	783	$1,192	–66	3	$13.0
13	SUPER SIZE ME	$0.8	230	$3,568	–3	6	$7.5
14	MAN ON FIRE	$0.5	402	$1,127	–57	8	$76.3
15	KILL BILL—VOL. 2	$0.2	201	$1,102	–33	9	$65.1
16	NASCAR 3D—THE IMAX...	$0.2	45	$4,734	+3	14	$13.0
17	A DAY WITHOUT A MEXICAN	$0.2	73	$2,732	–44	5	$2.8
18	13 GOING ON 30	$0.2	193	$934	–49	8	$55.7
19	COFFEE AND CIGARETTES	$0.2	46	$3,407	–21	5	$1.4
20	THE LADYKILLERS	$0.1	231	$634	+246	12	$39.3

SOURCE: NIELSEN EDI. WEEKEND OF JUNE 11–13. *WEEKEND-GROSS AND GROSS-TO-DATE FIGURES IN MILLIONS †INCLUDES SOME MULTISCREEN THEATERS AND PRINTS SHIPPED AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL SCREENS

CATHERINE ZETA-JONES Top Grossers		OPENING WEEKEND*	NUMBER OF SITES	DOMESTIC GROSS
12/27/02	CHICAGO	$2.1	77	$170.7
12/20/00	TRAFFIC	$0.2	4	$124.1
7/17/98	THE MASK OF ZORRO	$22.5	2,515	$94.1
7/20/01	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS	$30.2	3,011	$93.6
7/23/99	THE HAUNTING	$33.4	2,808	$91.2
4/30/99	ENTRAPMENT	$20.1	2,815	$87.7
10/10/03	INTOLERABLE CRUELTY	$12.5	2,564	$35.2
3/31/00	HIGH FIDELITY	$6.4	1,183	$27.3
6/7/96	THE PHANTOM	$5.1	2,159	$17.3
8/21/92	CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS: THE DISCOVERY	$3.1	1,506	$8.2

SOURCE: EXHIBITOR RELATIONS CO., INC. *OPENING-GROSS AND DOMESTIC-GROSS FIGURES IN MILLIONS

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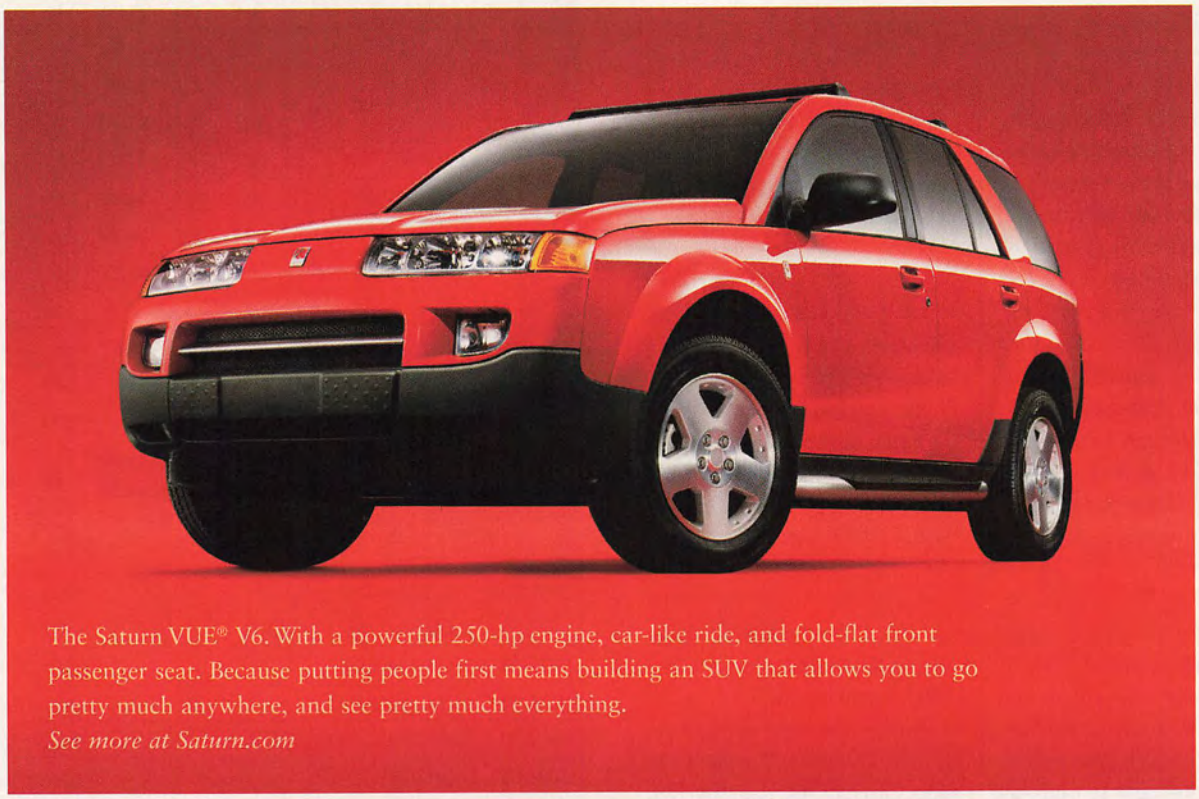

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Endless Love

The sumptuous Civil War epic *Cold Mountain* mesmerizes on the small screen. by Jeff Labrecque

Jude Law, Nicole Kidman, Renée Zellweger
R, 154 mins., 2003 (Miramax)

Anthony Minghella makes beautiful movies, and *Cold Mountain*, a romantic odyssey that unfolds amid the storm of the Civil War, is stunning to watch even as it portrays man's cruelty. Cinematographer John Seale, who also shot Minghella's *English Patient* and *Talented Mr. Ripley*, makes Law and Kidman positively luminous on screen—even on DVD—and the battle scene at Petersburg is as vividly compelling as any action sequence from last year (outside of Middle-earth, that is).

Law plays Inman, a wounded Confederate deserter who begins the arduous journey home in hopes of fulfilling the promise of a kiss. Kidman is the elegant Ada, the preacher's daughter left ill-equipped to survive before meeting Zellweger, who rode her best Minnie Pearl impression to an Oscar. Between the two lovers lie hundreds of miles of treacherous terrain and a series of colorful characters.

But Minghella, who also wrote the screenplay, is the general of this campaign: Although he admits in one of the three bonus featurettes that he may have been the least qualified person to make a movie about the American Civil War, the Brit-born Italian took an international cast to the hills of Romania and emerged with an all-American tale of love and war that should satisfy even devout fans of Charles Frazier's novel. Deleted scenes, like Inman's return to Ada's farm and the vengeful mutilation of Union soldiers, reinforce that Minghella—who swore "never to do another adaptation of a big book"—has become a master of just that. **A-**

Doubleheader of the Week

'THE ENGLISH PATIENT: COLLECTOR'S EDITION'
Attention, Anthony Minghella fans: Check out the DVD makeover of his 1996 Oscar-winning tearjerker—if you have any Kleenex left after *Cold Mountain*.

ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT DE MICHIELI; *BAD SANTA*: TRACY BENNETT

DVD Q&A

Billy Bob Thornton

Even little old ladies love Billy Bob Thornton's twisted **Bad Santa** *(R, 93 mins., 2003, Dimension)*. And now, with the unrated 100-minute *Badder Santa* on the DVD, there's more to love. *—Gregory Kirschling*

Really? Grannies on the street tell you they dig *Bad Santa*? Isn't that nuts? **And here's the weird thing, and I feel a little strange about this: Little kids come up to me and say it. How'd you pull off such a go-for-broke performance? In another interview you said you were drunk a lot of the time.** Uh, well, I tell the European press that. [*Laughs*] **What's the movie's best dirty line?** I think everybody loves "F--- me, Santa!" and I'm on the same bandwagon. **According to the Internet Movie Database, the movie has 147 *f*---s. A Christmas-movie record?** Oh, sure. It may be a record for any movie. Except for maybe—what's the crime thing with Al Pacino?—*Scarface*! *Scarface* and *Bad Santa* are probably neck and neck.

BLAZING SADDLES

30th Anniversary Special Edition

Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder

R, 93 mins., 1974 (Warner)

Blazing Saddles broke new ground when it was released in 1974. "It also broke wind," quips director Mel Brooks, referring to the notorious campfire scene in which a group of hungry cowboys blow off some steam. The insanely hilarious farce about a black sheriff sent to save a besieged Western town in 1874 is an equal-opportunity offender, but everyone's in on the joke, and Brooks gets classic performances from a brilliant cast. **EXTRAS** Some bonus scenes will look familiar to those who grew up with the sanitized television version, and Brooks' commentary doesn't even run the length of the movie. Fortunately, the look-back doc is a blast, chronicling casting what-ifs (cowriter Richard Pryor as Sheriff Bart? John Wayne as the Waco Kid?) and the genius of Harvey Korman as Hedy Lamarr—that's *Hedley*! **B+** —*JL*

Who can take a sunrise, sprinkle it with dew...

SOUTH PARK

The Complete Fourth Season

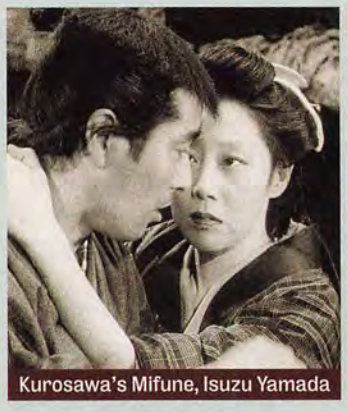
Unrated, 6 hrs., 20 mins., 2000 (Paramount)

Only one show could, or would, introduce the boy band Fingerbang, let Cartman join NAMBLA, and parody a certain presidential election with a stalemate kindergarten vote. But while you're applauding *South Park*'s bravado (Janet Reno in a bunny costume!), don't forget its heart: Handicapped Timmy champions a physically challenged turkey in "Helen Keller! The Musical," and Mr. Hankey's "nugget" son Cornwallis discovers poo's essential place in the world in "A Very Crappy Christmas." **EXTRAS** Creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone offer mini-musings on the 17 episodes—touching upon battles with Comedy Central (Timmy and new teacher Ms. Choksondik were especially hard sells) and Parker's admittedly "superjuvenile" need to mock Phil Collins (who'd just beat him out for the Best Song Oscar). So-called "commentary lunchables" may satisfy casual fans, but diehards craving the full method behind all this madness will be left hungry. **A–** —*Mandi Bierly*

Park's pint-size potty mouths

DOUBLE TAKE

'The Lower Depths'



Kurosawa's Mifune, Isuzu Yamada

Renoir's Astor, Gabin

Using Maxim Gorky's play about life among the destitute of society as their source, two directors—Akira Kurosawa and Jean Renoir—come up with sharply different takes in a new Criterion set. Although Kurosawa moves the action to early-19th-century Japan for his ensemble portrait *(Unrated, 125 mins., 1957)*, he adheres closely to Gorky, evoking the squalor and cruelty with finely drawn portraits: a brooding Toshiro Mifune as the thief in love with the younger sister of his landlady (and ex-paramour) and a withered, grinning Bokuzen Hidari as an old holy man. Renoir's well-coiffed, working-class *misérables (Unrated, 85 mins., 1936)* still squabble ferociously, but the story is a male-bonding vehicle for his two stars: Jean Gabin, the thief, teaching Louis Jouvet, the urbane impoverished gambler, the pleasures of lying in the grass. In the upbeat finale—not Gorky's—Gabin and the girl (Junie Astor) hit the road like Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert did two years earlier in *It Happened One Night*. **EXTRAS** A superb commentary by Kurosawa expert Donald Richie and a making-of doc; a short intro from Renoir. Kurosawa: **A** Renoir: **A–** —*Edward Karam*

DAWSON'S CREEK

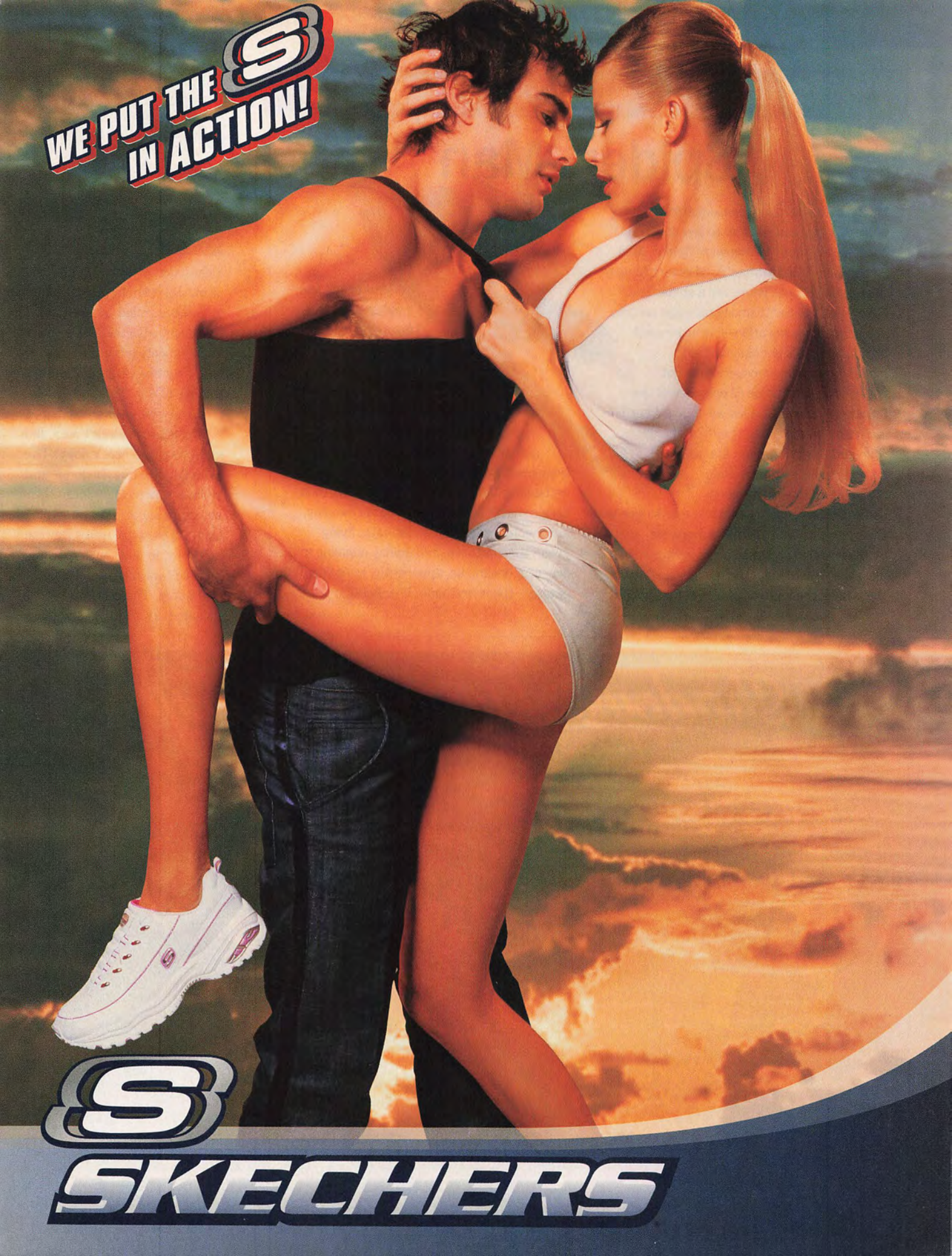
The Complete Third Season

James Van Der Beek, Katie Holmes

Unrated, 16 hrs., 17 mins., 1999–2000 (Columbia TriStar)

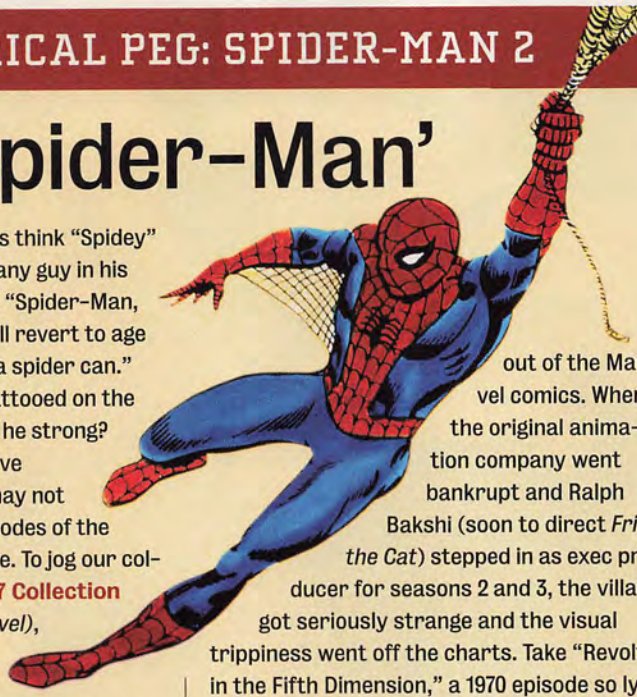
The season after creator Kevin Williamson left the precocious WB series is uneven at best—"There are things that I just look back at, and frankly I cringe a little bit," admits exec producer Paul Stupin in his commentary. Bigheaded Dawson (Van Der Beek) goes slumming with temptress/stripper/Jen's half sister, Eve (Brittany Daniel); Andie (Meredith Monroe) is released from the mental ward and

BLAZING SADDLES, BUTT LOWER DEPTHS: PHOTOFEST; SOUTH PARK: © COMEDY CENTRAL


WE PUT THE S IN ACTION!
SKECHERS

THEATRICAL PEG: SPIDER-MAN 2

'Spider-Man'



Maybe those darn modern kids think "Spidey" and see Tobey, but walk up to any guy in his 40s and sing these two words: "Spider-Man, Spider-Man." Guaranteed, he'll revert to age 10 and reply, "Does whatever a spider can." Even if Bob Harris' theme is tattooed on the brainpan of a generation—"Is he strong? Listen, bud/He's got radioactive blood"—nostalgia-mongers may not recall how *weird* those 52 episodes of the Saturday-morning series were. To jog our collective memory comes **The '67 Collection** *(Unrated, 19 hrs., 4 mins., Marvel)*, six volumes of evidence that the animators were smoking something stronger than Benson & Hedges in their cubicles back then. The awkward draftsmanship and uninspired scripts haven't aged well, but at least the bad guys—Doc Ock, the Lizard, the Vulture, et al.—come straight out of the Marvel comics. When the original animation company went bankrupt and Ralph Bakshi (soon to direct *Fritz the Cat*) stepped in as exec producer for seasons 2 and 3, the villains got seriously strange and the visual trippiness went off the charts. Take "Revolt in the Fifth Dimension," a 1970 episode so lysergic that it features oil-painted nebulae, an insectoid alien named Infinata, flying green spermatozoa, and Spidey deciding it's, like, all a dream. So, apparently, were the DVD extras—there are none. **B** —*Ty Burr*

K.H. + J.J. 4-ever

filches a copy of the PSATs; sardonic Jen (Michelle Williams) gets steamrolled by an earnest freshman's affections; Jack (Kerr Smith) meets a boy. Luckily for the viewers (and the show), junior year at Capeside also introduces the unlikely romance between smart aleck Pacey and girl-down-the-creek Joey: The talented Joshua Jackson and Holmes convincingly forge their bickering banter into something that supposed soul mates Dawson and Joey, in all their hyperanalytic self-awareness, couldn't—real heart. The scanty **EXTRAS** include only audio commentary

SPIDER-MAN: COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION; DAWSON'S CREEK: FRED NORRIS

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from Stupin and Smith and a ho-hum interactive tour of Capeside. **B–** *—Allyssa Lee*

THE LINE KING

The Al Hirschfeld Story

Documentary

Unrated, 86 mins., 1996 (Home Vision)

If there's no business like show business, there's no caricaturist like Al Hirschfeld. A witty chronicler of the Great White Way, the *New York Times* sketch artist (who died in January 2003 at age 99) is lovingly portrayed as a steady-handed sprite in this meticulous doc. Tracing his life decade by decade, director Susan W. Dryfoos layers commentaries from the likes of Katharine Hepburn and Carol Channing over Hirschfeld's renditions of each performer, and the former sculptor himself reveals colorful personal tidbits (the U.S. military used to train student pilots by having them find the *Ninas*—the odes to his daughter—hidden in his drawings!). **EXTRAS** Sparse additions include a silent gallery of Hirschfeld's well-known pieces (including Marilyn

You can call him Al

Monroe and Humphrey Bogart) and a seven-minute film of the artist in his element: making a sketch of Paul Newman in 2002's *Our Town*. **B+** *—Michelle Kung*

WE'RE DYIN' FOR...

'Undeclared'

Freaks and geeks, college-style

A mind is a terrible thing to waste. So is a TV show as offbeat and honest as *Undeclared*, brainchild of *Freaks and Geeks* executive producer Judd Apatow. Fox flunked the campus comedy after just 17 episodes, but now those kooky freshmen will crack wise again on DVD. While no official date has been set, Shout! Factory has decided to release the *Undeclared* disc based on *Freaks and Geeks*' success story: Fans of that dearly departed series lobbied online for its release—and got their wish April 6. Just think: more sardonic commentary from beer guzzler Ron. More navel gazing from drama stud(ent) Lloyd. More whacked-out cameos from the likes of Will Ferrell and Ben Stiller. And Apatow is armed with an arsenal of extras: "every deleted scene, blooper, audition," as well as uncut, improvised riffs from Loudon Wainwright III, who played not-so-gay divorcé Hal, and former Freak Jason Segel (Eric, the obsessive ex). *—Alisa Cohen*

The Charts

MONSTER

'MONSTER' BALL

Charlize Theron's Oscar-winning turn in *Monster* couldn't beat *The King* in sales, but the harrowing biopic was a hit with buyers and renters, taking both top debut spots (while Nick Broomfield's Aileen Wuornos doc *Life and Death of a Serial Killer* didn't crack the charts). On the lighter side, *Eurotrip* made a splash on both DVD and VHS—*quelle surprise*!

TOP 10 DVD SALES

	LAST WEEK		BOX OFFICE GROSS TO DATE*	WEEKS ON CHART	EW GRADE
1	1	LOTR: THE RETURN OF THE KING (WIDE)	$377.0	2	A–
2	—	MONSTER	$34.5	1	B
3	—	EUROTRIP (WIDE)	$17.8	1	C+†
4	—	MY BABY'S DADDY	$17.3	1	C–†
5	—	PITCH BLACK: DIRECTOR'S CUT (WIDE)	$39.2	1	A–
6	10	CHAPPELLE'S SHOW: SEASON ONE	—	15	A–
7	2	MIRACLE (WIDE)	$64.4	3	B†
8	4	LOTR: THE RETURN OF THE KING (FULL)	$377.0	2	A–
9	3	THE LAST SAMURAI (WIDE)	$111.1	5	B
10	—	STARSHIP TROOPERS 2	—	1	—

TOP 10 TAPE RENTALS

	LAST WEEK		VIDEO GROSS TO DATE*	BOX OFFICE GROSS TO DATE*	WEEKS ON CHART	EW GRADE
1	—	MONSTER	$1.4	$34.5	1	B
2	1	LOTR: THE RETURN OF THE KING	$2.5	$377.0	2	A–
3	4	WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT	$1.9	$14.5	2	C–
4	2	PAYCHECK	$3.5	$53.8	3	C+†
5	—	EUROTRIP	$0.7	$17.8	1	C+†
6	3	THE LAST SAMURAI	$6.5	$111.1	5	B
7	5	SCARY MOVIE 3	$4.1	$110.0	4	B+†
8	6	THE HAUNTED MANSION	$7.5	$75.8	7	D+†
9	—	CATCH THAT KID	$0.5	$16.7	1	D+†
10	7	TORQUE	$2.0	$21.2	3	B†

SOURCES: *VIDEO BUSINESS*/*RENTRAK* FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 6, 2004; NIELSEN EDI *IN MILLIONS

NOW IN STORES

THE PERFECT SCORE *(PG-13, 92 mins., 2004, Paramount)* Six high school seniors, including Scarlett Johansson and Erika Christensen, try to cheat their way to the top by stealing the answers to the "Suck-Ass Test" (a.k.a. the SAT).

THE THIN BLUE LINE: THE COMPLETE LINE-UP *(Unrated, 7 hrs., 1995–96, BBC)* *The Office* meets *Mr. Bean* in this BBC sitcom about an independent inspector (Rowan Atkinson) and his team of incompetent cops.

TOUCHING THE VOID *(Unrated, 106 mins., 2004, MGM)* Brit mountaineers Joe Simpson and Simon Yates daringly take on the Peruvian Andes in a breathtaking docudrama based on Simpson's book.

TOUR OF DUTY: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON *(Unrated, 16 hrs., 43 mins., 1987–88, Columbia TriStar)* Zev Braun's Emmy-nominated Vietnam cult fave, which follows Company B into battle, finally conquers DVD.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN *(Unrated, 112 mins., 2003, Acorn Media)* This official biography of the Great Communicator, now in rerelease, features his "A Time for Choosing" speech, his farewell to the nation upon leaving the White House, and his final public address in 1994.

TUPAC: RESURRECTION *(R, 112 mins., 2003, Paramount)* "From the cradle to the grave," the rapper tells his story through interviews, journal entries, poetry, and home videos in Lauren Lazin's doc.

†ORIGINAL THEATRICAL GRADE

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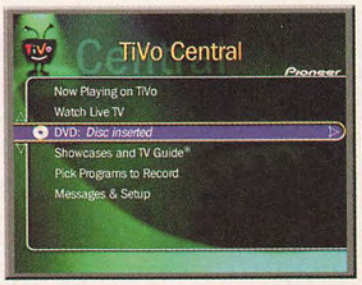

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Doctors without boundaries: McMahon and Walsh; Richardson and Hensley (inset)

A Cut Above

Ken Tucker says the beauty of *Nip/Tuck*, FX's sexy plastic surgery soap, is no longer skin-deep

Tuesdays, 10 p.m. (FX)

I spent the first half of *Nip/Tuck*'s debut season last year disliking it because the series seemed so pleased with its own dislikability; my unwiggling rule of thumb is, I don't watch any show that's more smug than I am. The tale of two friends, Sean (the assiduously droopy Dylan Walsh) and Christian (the satiric satyr Julian McMahon)—plastic surgeons who run a Miami Beach chop shop for the vain and wealthy—*Nip/Tuck* was made for the FX channel in more ways than one. As basic cable's answer to HBO, FX can be naughtier than the networks, but it can't unload the moist blasts of nudity, violence, and profanity that await purchasers of pay cable. The result on *Nip/Tuck* was an initially unsavory mixture of amorality, blood, and the sort of blunt speech that's more censorious than profane.

But ultimately *Nip/Tuck*'s sheer energy—its vigor for the vulgar, its delight in decadence, its zest for the zeitgeist—won me over. Well, that and the infectious enthusiasm of a colleague who told me I'd missed a subplot in which Sean's teen son, Matt (the ghostly wan John Hensley, who looks like Michael Jackson with a better hairdresser and a good plastic surgeon), engaged in a three-way with a couple of gal pals before running over a fellow student while driving stoned. Now that's the kind of multileveled sordidness that can give premium cable a run for its money.

And so, fully caught up via DVD, I approached the first three episodes of *Nip/Tuck*'s sophomore season ready to be appalled in a pleasurable way. For the most part, my seedy desires have been fulfilled. Joely Richardson, who plays Sean's wife, Julia, is easily the best actor in a series that hasn't shown much need for nuanced emotion (squinching eyes in either under-the-knife pain or orgasmic pleasure is pretty much all any player needs here). But Julia's pampered-housewife ennui was alluring right from the start, and it only gets better now that Julia's mother, played by guest star Vanessa Redgrave—Richardson's real-life mother—has swanned into town to demand a face-lift from Sean before going out on her latest book tour.

Nip/Tuck is, in short, a great soap opera disguised as very good prime-time trash. Creator Ryan Murphy was once an entertainment journalist, including a stint at ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY, and therefore knows how to hook an audience with catchphrases (no matter who writes the episode, it is mandatory every week for either Sean or Christian to say to a prospective patient, "Tell me what you don't like about yourself") and recycled pop wisdom ("It took almost dying to realize that aging isn't a curse, it's a privilege," intones a patient in the season premiere). Murphy's print past also makes him an excellent, ruthless editor: He has jettisoned characters that didn't work (such as last season's hectoring drag,

Disturbing Hyperbole of the Week

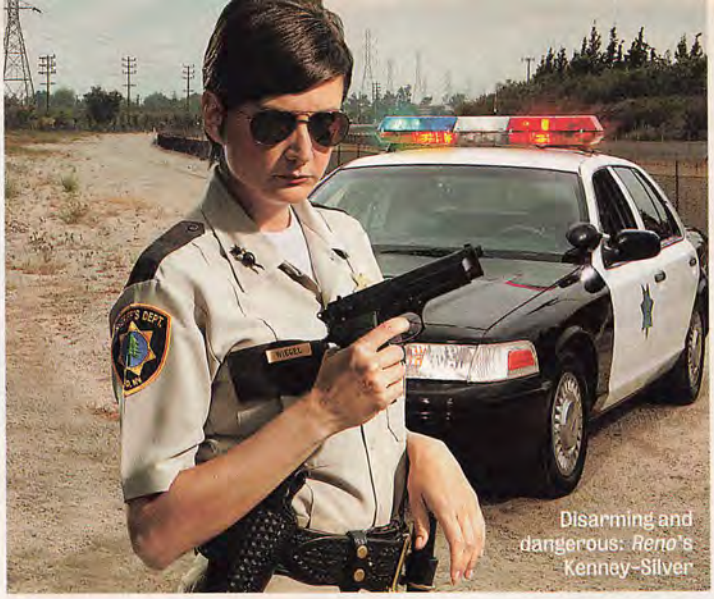
'WHO WANTS TO MARRY MY DAD?'

NBC's out-of-control promo department has dubbed the reality sapfest "America's most romantic show." Riiight... if by "romantic" you mean creepy.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ISABEL SNYDER

Dr. Grace Santiago) and added new ones (the aforementioned Redgrave plus *X-Men*'s Famke Janssen, terrific as an aggressive "life coach" for Julia). Murphy also delineates more fully the roles of supporting players who'd been only sketched in last season. The best of these is Jessalyn Gilsig as Christian's sexaholic girlfriend Gina. Clearly relishing her liberation from the hellhole David E. Kelley used to call *Boston Public*, Gilsig is ferociously sexy and mean. And the fact that Gina is now a new mom has—as so often occurs in life, don't you find?—only increased these qualities.

Christian isn't the child's biological father, but he's developed a fondness for little Wilber that gives Gina emotional leverage in the couple's bellowing battles. Plus, now that the series has gotten Sean's tedious midlife crisis out of the way in season 1, it's cursing him with something worse—a mild palsy that makes him a risk as a surgeon. By giving its two macho protagonists humbling obstacles, and by allowing Matt's hit-and-run misadventure to come back and haunt him in a way he didn't expect, *Nip/Tuck* is poised to open up and reveal what I never thought it would: a healthy, vibrant heart. **B+**



Disarming and dangerous: *Reno*'s Kenney-Silver

Top Guns

The altered police state of *Reno 911!* is criminally funny. by Gillian Flynn

Wednesdays, 10:30 p.m. (Comedy Central)

On its surface, *Reno 911!* is a Keystone *COPS*: Starring an inspired comedic troupe that must set Lorne Michaels a-twitch, the series trails a dazzlingly inept Nevada police squad documentary-style. The befuddled, bored, and often enraged deputies deal with oddities like a recovering gunshot victim who tries to eat a poodle, or a naked, mulleted trailer-park loiterer who turns out to belong to a *gang* of naked, mulleted trailer-park loiterers.

At its core, however, the largely improvised series is a jangly American version of *The Office*, with its best comedy revolving around race, gracelessness, despair, and a glorious lack of self-awareness, courtesy of the kinds of outsize characters who inhabit the typical workplace: the needy boss, the not-hot hottie, the odd, bony person you worry may one day kill everyone....

Reno's second season finds shorts-sporting Lieut. Jim Dangle (twangy Thomas Lennon, one of several alums of *Viva Variety* and MTV's *The State*) as persnickety as ever. He's the kind of guy who makes a party he's throwing a mandatory work event, and the kind of crime fighter who refuses to save a writer's novel from a burning building once he hears the plot—because it sounds too much like...the Dennis Quaid movie *Frequency*. Of course, there's an ensuing debate as to whether *Frequency* was itself a rip-off of an *Encyclopedia Brown* story: *Reno*'s players, bless them, are pop-culture nuts—references to Cyndi Lauper, Kenny Rogers, and killer clowns abound.

Meanwhile, the plurally adored Deputy Jones (Cedric Yarbrough)—a guy as close to charming as *Reno* will allow—is still battling the casual *Who, me?* racism that the show loves to nail. When Jones expresses regret for missing Dangle's party, Dangle blasts him for giving a lax "hip-hop apology." ("I apologize and I'm sorry," Jones replies. "Is that white enough?")

Reno's freaky crown jewel is the brilliant Kerri Kenney-Silver, who plays Deputy Trudy Wiegel as a haplessly prejudiced virginal slut whose inner workings are so transparent you can almost see the contents of her brain (some creepy old buttons, a dried boutonniere for the prom date who never showed, a jar of spiders). Thus Trudy's take on a visiting British cop: "[He's like] someone from *Mary Poppins*...who comes riding in on a jalopy...and says 'Come along, everyone, I have whipped ices!' And then he grabs them and rapes the s--- out of them." Now there's a hell of a line—from one of *Reno*'s finest. **A-**

ASK THE CRITIC Ken Tucker

ROMANO

Acting Out

Why don't TV critics talk more about individual acting techniques, the way movie critics do? —*Colleen*

TV series are so often about ongoing plots that acting analysis can be neglected, you're right. (Also, lotsa movies are one-sentence concepts, so there's room to ruminate in this area.) Just within *Everybody Loves Raymond*, you can see the difference between Ray Romano's stand-up-comic simplicity versus Peter Boyle's stage-trained shrewdness. In drama, compare the equal effectiveness of minimalism (*The X-Files*' David Duchovny) versus more emotive acting by *The West Wing*'s Martin Sheen.

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JULY 8	Agora Theatre - Cleveland, OH
JULY 10	Roseland - New York, NY
JULY 11	Hampton Beach Ballroom - Hampton Beach, NH
JULY 12	Lupo's - Providence, RI
JULY 14	The Norva - Norfolk, VA
JULY 15	House of Blues - Myrtle Beach, SC
JULY 16	House of Blues - Orlando, FL
JULY 18	House of Blues - New Orleans, LA
JULY 19	Gypsy Ballroom - Dallas, TX
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JULY 21	Sunset Station - San Antonio, TX
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GIRL OF 'SUMMER'

Summerland's Dungey

On *Alias*, she opened her own restaurant and became an ass-kicking evil twin before dying (apparently) early this past season. And now Merrin Dungey—a.k.a. Sydney Bristow's roommate, Francie—has gone on to a sunnier place: The WB's sweet beachside soap, *Summerland*. She plays Susannah, fashion-business partner and housemate to Lori Loughlin's Ava, a designer who raises her niece and nephews after her sister passes away. "On *Alias* you'd get the scripts and be like, 'Am I going to die?'" says Dungey. "This is like, 'What am I wearing?'" The 32-year-old actress joined *Summerland* after a grueling year of *Alias*' hand-to-hand combat; she trained hard even though she knew her character's days were numbered. "If you start out bad on *Alias*, you can set up some real estate," says Dungey. "If you turn bad, you've got some comeuppance coming. You better start looking for a new home." Luckily, she found one where those martial-arts workouts don't go to waste: "I did train again for *Summerland* because—hello—bikinis!" —*Jennifer Armstrong*

Sound Bites

"Justin Timberlake announced that contrary to reports, he will not be able to appear in the movie version of *Rent*. Meanwhile, the other former members of 'N Sync announced that contrary to reports, they will not be able to pay their rent."
CONAN O'BRIEN ON *LATE NIGHT*

"It's very hot here in New York City. To give you an idea of how hot it is today in New York City, it was so hot I called Oprah Winfrey just to get the cold shoulder."
DAVID LETTERMAN, IN A NOD TO HIS FEUD WITH THE TALK-SHOW QUEEN, ON *LATE SHOW*

"I like the truck. It matches our outfits." PARIS HILTON PRAISING HER PINK TRUCK ON *THE SIMPLE LIFE 2*

"I never knew the word *George* could sound so obscene." DAVID (MICHAEL C. HALL), AFTER HEARING HIS MOTHER (FRANCES CONROY) MAKE LOUD LOVE WITH HER NEW HUSBAND (JAMES CROMWELL), ON *SIX FEET UNDER*

The Ratings

LAST COMIC STANDING

SOLID 'STANDING'

The verdict is in: 9.1 million jokesters helped NBC's second season premiere of *Last Comic Standing* (16th) get the last laugh Tuesday by besting the first two episodes of Fox's new legal drama, *The Jury* (tied for 67th), and a second episode of The WB's *Summerland* (69th). But the Peacock wasn't giggling about Monday's *For Love or Money* 3 (33rd) and Sunday's *Crime & Punishment* (55th)—the premieres only pulled in a lackluster 6.3 million and 4.7 million viewers, respectively. Meanwhile, eternally struggling ABC *finally* scored!: The net is the week's champ, thanks to a chart-topping NBA Finals hat trick and game 7 of the Stanley Cup (33rd).

TOP 25

	VIEWERS*		LAST WEEK
1	20.3	**BASKETBALL: LAKERS VS. PISTONS** *ABC, Sunday, 9 p.m.*	—
2	16.2	**BASKETBALL: LAKERS VS. PISTONS** *ABC, Thursday, 9 p.m.*	—
3	16.1	**BASKETBALL: LAKERS VS. PISTONS** *ABC, Tuesday, 9 p.m.*	—
4	13.8	**CSI (R)** *CBS, Thursday, 9 p.m.*	2
5	13.3	**WITHOUT A TRACE (R)** *CBS, Thursday, 10:01 p.m.*	6
6	13.2	**EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (R)** *CBS, Monday, 9 p.m.*	4
7	12.6	**TWO AND A HALF MEN (R)** *CBS, Monday, 9:31 p.m.*	4
8	12.1	**CSI: MIAMI (R)** *CBS, Monday, 10 p.m.*	3
9	11.3	**LAW & ORDER: SVU (R)** *NBC, Tuesday, 10 p.m.*	—
10	11.2	**COLD CASE (R)** *CBS, Sunday, 8 p.m.*	—
11	10.7	**LAST COMIC STANDING** *NBC, Wednesday, 9 p.m.*	—
12	10.6	**60 MINUTES (R)** *CBS, Sunday, 7 p.m.*	—
13	9.9	**CROSSING JORDAN (R)** *NBC, Sunday, 10 p.m.*	8
	9.9	**LAW & ORDER: CRIMINAL INTENT (R)** *NBC, Sunday, 9 p.m.*	12
15	9.3	**48 HOURS MYSTERY (R)** *CBS, Wednesday, 10 p.m.*	14
16	9.1	**LAST COMIC STANDING** *NBC, Tuesday, 8 p.m.*	—
17	8.6	**STILL STANDING (R)** *CBS, Monday, 8:30 p.m.*	18
18	8.2	**FEAR FACTOR (R)** *NBC, Monday, 8 p.m.*	13
19	8.1	**MOVIE: SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS** *CBS, Sunday, 9 p.m.*	—
20	7.7	**60 MINUTES II** *CBS, Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.*	—
21	7.5	**DATELINE** *NBC, Sunday, 8 p.m.*	—
	7.5	**NBA HANGTIME** *ABC, Sunday, 8:31 p.m.*	—
23	7.4	**THE KING OF QUEENS (R)** *CBS, Wednesday, 9 p.m.*	21
24	7.3	**YES, DEAR (R)** *CBS, Monday, 8 p.m.*	21
25	7.2	**AMERICA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS** *ABC, Sunday, 7:02 p.m.*	46

NETWORK RANKINGS

	VIEWERS**		LAST WEEK
1	8.6	**ABC**	3
2	8.4	**CBS**	1
3	7.3	**NBC**	2
4	4.4	**FOX**	4
5	2.8	**UPN**	6
6	2.4	**THE WB**	5

* IN MILLIONS ** AVERAGE IN MILLIONS WEEK OF JUNE 7–13, 2004 SOURCE: NIELSEN MEDIA RESEARCH

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What to Watch

A day-to-day guide to notable programs.* BY DALTON ROSS

MONDAY JUNE 21

8–9:30PM
Wrong Turn *(Cinemax, TV-R)* Which is exactly what you'll have taken if you stumble across mutant hillbillies attacking Eliza Dushku. Although mutant hillbillies certainly have their appeal.

9–10PM
The Casino *(Fox)* The Golden Nugget takes some rich guy's money, and for some reason that ends up being a problem for the casino. Only in Vegas. Actually, what the hell am I talking about? That *never* happens in Vegas.

SEASON PREMIERE
9–10PM*
History Detectives *(PBS, TV-G)* The History Detectives check out a woman's American Indian pipe "that family legend suggests was given to her ancestor by the famous warrior Chief Red Cloud." Family legend also points to a lot of major-league toking goin' on. **check local listings*

SEASON PREMIERE
10:05–10:59PM
Who Wants to Marry My Dad? *(NBC, TV-PG)* Uh…pass.

8:30–9PM
MTV Presents: Entertainment Weekly's Summer Must List ***(MTV)*** **Hey, wanna find out who made ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY's coveted Must List? Well, then read the issue that's in your damn hands!!! Too lazy for that? Then allow people who sit in the offices on my right (Dave Karger) and my left (Kristen Baldwin) to tell you all about it on this MTV special. (Nancy Miller's there too, but she sits on, like, another floor or something.) As if that's not enough, Ashlee Simpson (right) and Damien Fahey will host, with footage from the ever-so-exclusive EW Must List party, where Kid Rock rocked the house. Or so they tell me.**

Hostess with the mustest

TUESDAY JUNE 22

8–11PM
AFI's 100 Years...100 Songs: America's Greatest Music in the Movies *(CBS, TV-G)* Cultural impact and legacy are two of the criteria voters were asked to consider when selecting the winners. So we know that "Danger Zone" is a shoo-in.

8:30–10:30PM
The Goonies *(HBO Family, TV-PG)* He won two Super Bowls with the Raiders, appeared in *Caveman* with Ringo Starr, and played a guy named Killjoy in *The Ice Pirates*. But John Matuszak will always be Sloth to us.

SERIES DEBUT
9–10PM
Outback Jack *(TBS, TV-PG-L)* Twelve scantily clad city gals rough it in the Australian outback in the hopes of winning "the man of their dreams"…who, as it turns out, is just some dude who runs marathons and has nice abs.

Full, fuller, fullest house

9–10PM
Summerland ***(The WB, TV-PG-D)*** **This pleasurably glossy fantasy about a lovely person (Lori Loughlin, left) raising her orphaned nephews and niece with the help of three impossibly loyal friends comes down to earth in this episode, as the blended fam throws a party that results in messy romantic entanglements and past secrets uncovered. It's good to see that the bratty niece (Kay Panabaker) has become a more fully rounded character with each week, and Loughlin's Ava has a fine spat with her ex-boyfriend (Shawn Christian). All this, plus *Alias*' Merrin Dungey (see page 153) gets some action! *Summerland* started out as silly escapism; it's gone just that half inch deeper to become dramatic escapism that keeps you hooked. B** ***—Ken Tucker***

Avril Lavigne

THE GUEST LIST

Look Who's On the Couch

JAY LENO **Monday** Keira Knightley, musical guest Avril Lavigne **Tuesday** Tobey Maguire, musical guests Maroon 5 **Wednesday** Keenen Ivory Wayans **Thursday** Will Ferrell, musical guest Uncle Kracker

DAVID LETTERMAN **Monday** Musical guests Phish **Tuesday** Kevin Kline, Nicole Richie (*The Simple Life*) **Wednesday** musical guests the Von Bondies

REGIS & KELLY **Monday** Joan Rivers **Tuesday** Marlon Wayans, Ashley Judd **Wednesday** Shawn Wayans, James Garner, Nicole Richie **Thursday** Graham Norton **Friday** Sean Hayes

*TIMES ARE EASTERN DAYLIGHT AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

Why, look who's up to a little Hanky panky

8–9PM*

American Masters: Hank Williams: Honky Tonk Blues *(PBS, TV-PG)* Country music's greatest songwriter, a genius at limning despair in simple phrases and howling moans, was dead by age 29. This impoverished Alabaman—"too hillbilly by half," as his biographer Colin Escott notes of a life doomed by an undiagnosed back problem, which exacerbated the drinking that became alcoholism—was indifferent to stardom, in it for the art and the girls. His mother ran hookers from the family house, and he married twice—the second time to a woman so beautiful "cars would wreck when she walked by," says a now-elderly veteran of Williams' band, the Drifting Cowboys. She's interviewed too, and you don't doubt the wreckage. No one has told Williams' story like this. **A** *—Ken Tucker* *check local listings

7–9AM
Good Morning America *(ABC)* Bill Clinton book promotion appearance No. 327.

8–9PM
T.H.E.M. *(NBC, TV-PG)* It's sort of like *C.H.U.D.*, but instead of cannibalistic humanoid underground dwellers, you have a posse of magicians performing "Totally Hidden Extreme Magic." Other than that, exact same thing.

9–10PM
America's Next Top Model: Cycle One *(UPN, TV-PG)* Ebony can't stop moisturizing. Even worse, we can't stop watching Ebony moisturizing. It's the motion of the lotion, people! Total moisture mesmerization. (R)

9–9:30PM
The Simple Life 2: Road Trip *(Fox)* Sometimes it's just so hard to...to...care.

THURSDAY JUNE 24

9–10PM
Larry King Live *(CNN)* No. 328.

9–10PM
Stephen King's Kingdom Hospital *(ABC, TV-14-V)* With Wayne Newton guest-starring, this ABC drama should definitely see an immediate spike in viewers. You know, from 11 people to, like, 14.

SERIES DEBUT
10–11PM
The Graham Norton Effect *(Comedy Central, TV-14)* He's randy. He's dandy. He's British. But don't hold that against him—the randy part.

KIRSTIE ALLEY ALERT!
10–11PM
Without a Trace *(CBS, TV-PG-DLS)* Run away!!!! (R)

Talk to the hand, Mr. Wool Ski Cap!

11:30PM–1AM

This Is Not a Film *(IFC, TV-PG)* Actually, this *is* a film—and a surprisingly good one—cleverly disguised as amateur video. A shoe salesman (Michael Leydon Campbell) enlists the help of his friends (like Nadia Dajani, above with Campbell) to re-create on tape scenes from his doomed relationship with a long-lost girlfriend—all in the desperate hopes that someone who knows his ex might see it and convince her to take him back. Written and directed by *Hands on a Hard Body* cinematographer Michael Nickles, this little indie bauble is proof that you don't need a big budget if you've got a witty concept and a talented enough cast to pull it off. **A** *—Benjamin Svetkey*

FRIDAY JUNE 25

Our spidey sense is tingling...oh, wait, that's our gross-out sense

8–9PM

Spider Power *(National Geographic Channel, TV-G)* Remember the third-grade science teacher who taught you to make nice with spiders? Screw him. If this special is to be believed—and hey, I'm gullible—spiders are icky, scheming killing machines, capable of battling cats and turning snakes into "soup." *Spider Power*'s computer graphics and extreme close-ups bring us further into the eight-legged world than most of us would be comfortable traveling. (Think of it as *CSI: Arachnid*.) Here, the killers use everything from camouflage to "toxic glue" to nab their hapless prey. There's even a Kiwi version of Gil Grissom explaining the intricacies of spidey sense. And while subjects like social behavior and mating get short shrift, there's plenty here for people who are only in it for the kill. **B** —*Alynda Wheat*

8–9PM

Search for Tigers *(Animal Planet, TV-G)* Tigers? Why tigers? Can't we go search for something like, I don't know, money? Or bobblehead dolls? Or Tim Kazurinsky?

10–10:30PM

Controversy: The Passion of the Christ *(CMT, TV-PG)* I can't tell you how many times over the past few months I've found myself asking, "I wonder what country-music superstar Ricky Skaggs thinks about *The Passion of the Christ*." Almost as many times as I've found myself asking, "Is Milwaukee's Best on sale this week?" (Note to self: It always is.)

10–10:59PM

Las Vegas *(NBC, TV-14)* Finally, the moment all film buffs have been breathlessly waiting for, as Jean-Claude Van Damme bites it. (R)

SATURDAY JUNE 26

8–9:45PM

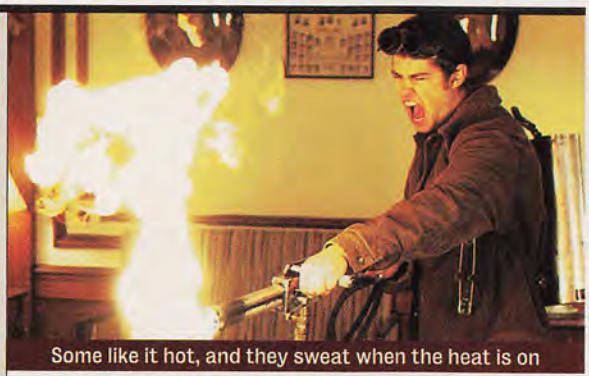
Edward Scissorhands *(Encore, TV-PG-13)* It's the movie in which Winona steals the show (no pun intended) and Anthony Michael Hall gets all buff and starts shooting people.

9–10:30PM

Everyday People *(HBO, TV-MA)* This film is about more than just a diner. It's about gentrification. It's about modern-day race relations. It's about Michael Stipe being an executive producer. And it's about time I moved on to the next entry. (Sorry, Stipe, but you got your shout-out.)

11:30PM –1:05AM

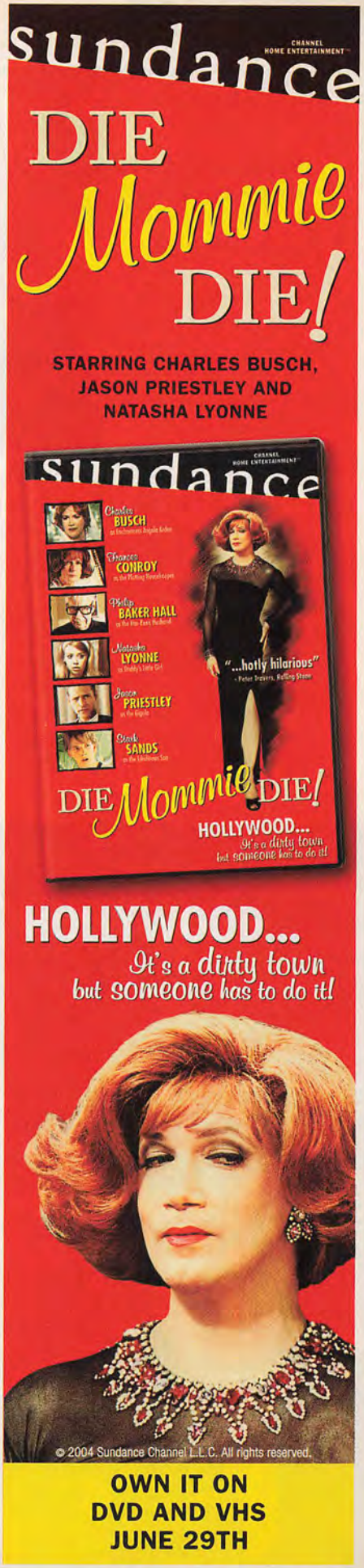
Action Jackson *(Encore, TV-R)* I think we can safely say this is the only place you'll see both Sharon Stone *and* Vanity topless.



Some like it hot, and they sweat when the heat is on

9–11PM

Decoys *(Sci Fi)* Everyone always talks about how hot college chicks are, but what about the ones working the other side of the thermometer? You know, the ones from outer space. The ones who seduce young human males before freezing them from the inside out during sex. What about them?!? Well, they finally get their due in this goofy horror flick. Mild-mannered college student Luke (*North Shore*'s Corey Sevier, above) meets two cool babes in the laundry room, but realizes something is amiss when he finds a Yanni CD in their room. His suspicions are confirmed when tentacles burst out of their chests. You may be the one who dies laughing. **C**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HOLLYWOOD...
It's a dirty town but someone has to do it!
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OWN IT ON DVD AND VHS JUNE 29TH

SUNDAY JUNE 27

I'm so foxy it's a crime

9–11PM
Heather Locklear: The E! True Hollywood Story *(E!)* Millions of men have had crushes on Heather Locklear, but unless you play in a cheesy metal band, this *ETHS* is about as close as you're gonna get to the blond TV star. In it we learn indispensible nuggets of information, such as the fact that "Heather loved the camera, and the camera loved Heather." You don't say? Slightly more interesting is the tidbit that she refused to wear padded underwear on *T.J. Hooker* (remember, I said *slightly*), and that she met former hubby Tommy Lee at, of all places, an REO Speedwagon concert (not exactly the place you'd expect to find one shouting at the devil). Costars like William Shatner, John Forsythe, and Michael J. Fox fill in the gaps by talking about how nice and pretty Locklear is, which I suppose explains why she's No. 17 on our Must List and has been on every single network show...EVER! By the time Richie Sambora swoops to the rescue, you'll be wishing you had taken those guitar lessons after all. **C+**

1–1:30PM
Ride With Funkmaster Flex *(Spike TV, TV-PG)* Somewhere the Dead Milkmen are smiling when Flex soups up Missy Elliott's bitchin' Camaro. (R)

7–8:40PM
Short Circuit *(HBO Family, TV-PG)* Can someone tell No. 5 to shut the hell up already?!?

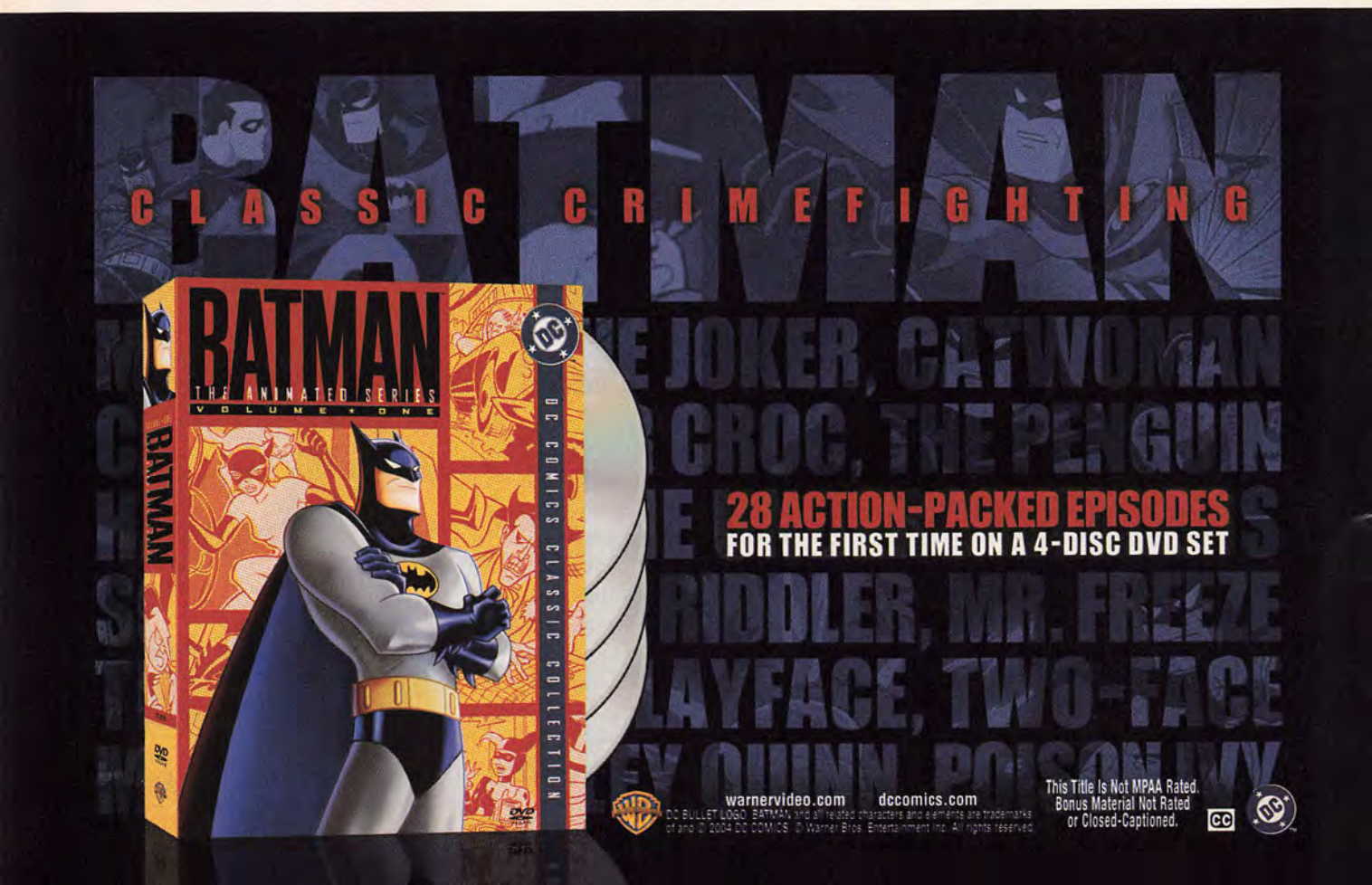
7–8PM
America's Funniest Home Videos *(ABC, TV-PG)* Included this evening: a boy who shoves an "amazing amount" of spaghetti up his nose, and—hopefully—the social services workers who come to arrest the parents for videotaping it. Look, Junior, Mommy's going to jail! Hilarious! (R)

9–11PM
The Soul Collector *(CBS, TV-PG-V)* This made-for-TV movie in which a spirit is banished to Earth by Ossie Davis is so good that the network is showing it again! Of course, it's been almost five years since it was on, so it can't be *that* good. Actually, I think it's pretty safe to say that it's not very good at all. I was just trying to be nice, and well, I'm not very good at that. (R)

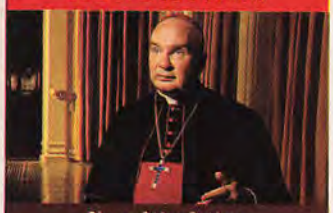
9–11PM
Gigli *(STARZ!, TV-R)* Affleck, you genius!

9–10PM
Six Feet Under *(HBO, TV-MA)* Rico starts handing out large chunks of change to strippers, Mena Suvari performs a guitar solo for the ages, and Nate has his own playdate with the mother of one of Maya's friends.

10–11PM
The Celebrity Hot 100 of Forbes *(A&E, TV-G)* A&E and *Forbes* activate their Wonder Twin powers to show off people who are both popular *and* rich. In other words, the anti–Dalton Rosses of the world.



MONDAY JUNE 28


Sins of the father

10–11:15PM*

Celibacy *(HBO, TV-MA)* This *America Undercover* docu examines the pedophile-priest scandal plaguing the Catholic Church in a shockingly thorough and thoroughly shocking fashion. Filmmakers cover everything from the practice's earliest days to recent abuses through a stunning variety of candid interviews with priests around the world (like Archbishop John Foley, above). One remembers the terror of his first wet dream, another discusses fellow clergymen's affairs, while a third details his struggle with pedophiliac urges and eventual surgical castration. Each of the individual stories could make its own film; together, they make a truly riveting documentary. **A** —*Jennifer Armstrong*

TUESDAY JUNE 29

3–4PM
General Hospital *(ABC, TV-PG)* Yeah, Randy Jackson may get a little pitchy guest-starring as himself on the soap opera, but you know, dawg, he's just doing his thang.

9–10PM
America's Next Top Model: Cycle One *(UPN, TV-PG-L)* It's the annual "alleged eating disorder" episode, in which one of the contestants swears she loves food. (R)

9:35–11:30PM
Oscar *(Encore, TV-PG)* Whoever said Sylvester Stallone can't do comedy obviously never saw this. Or *Over the Top*.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 30

7:35–9PM
The Battle of Shaker Heights *(STARZ!, TV-PG-13)* *Project Screw Up a Major Motion Picture* winners Kyle and Efram present their 77-minute epic. (And that includes the time it takes to roll the credits.)

8:30–10:10PM
The Bad News Bears in Breaking Training *(HBO Family, TV-PG)* Let them play! Let them play! Sorry, I just can't help but get caught up in all the excitement. It's the Astrodome, for chrissakes!

9–11:15PM
Die Another Day *(Showtime, TV-PG-13)* Like when, tomorrow? I thought tomorrow never dies. Make up your damn mind, 007!

THURSDAY JULY 1

War and peace

9–10PM*

Wide Angle: Suicide Bombers *(PBS)* That's Majdi Mohammad Amer busting out the peace sign to the left. Kinda curious, considering he helped to blow up a bus and all. But such is the delicate and disturbing state of affairs between Israelis and Palestinians today. See Amer and other suicide bombers defend their actions here. **check local listings*

FRIDAY JULY 2

SEASON PREMIERE
8:30–9PM
Girls V. Boys: Hawaii *(The N, TV-G)* *Degrassi* fans are gonna be FREAKING OUT (that means *you*, Ken Tucker!) when two of the show's cast members join this battle-of-the-sexes reality series. It doesn't happen tonight, though. But by all means, keep freaking out.

9–10:35PM
Nothing but a Man *(Trio)* Uh, apparently the revolution *will* be televised after all when Chuck D takes over Trio's programming schedule for a week to present some of his fave films. He kicks things off with this 1964 racially tinged love story that is notable for many reasons, not least of which is a young Yaphet Kotto.

SATURDAY JULY 3

Check it out—I am so ready for *Young Guns III*

9–11PM

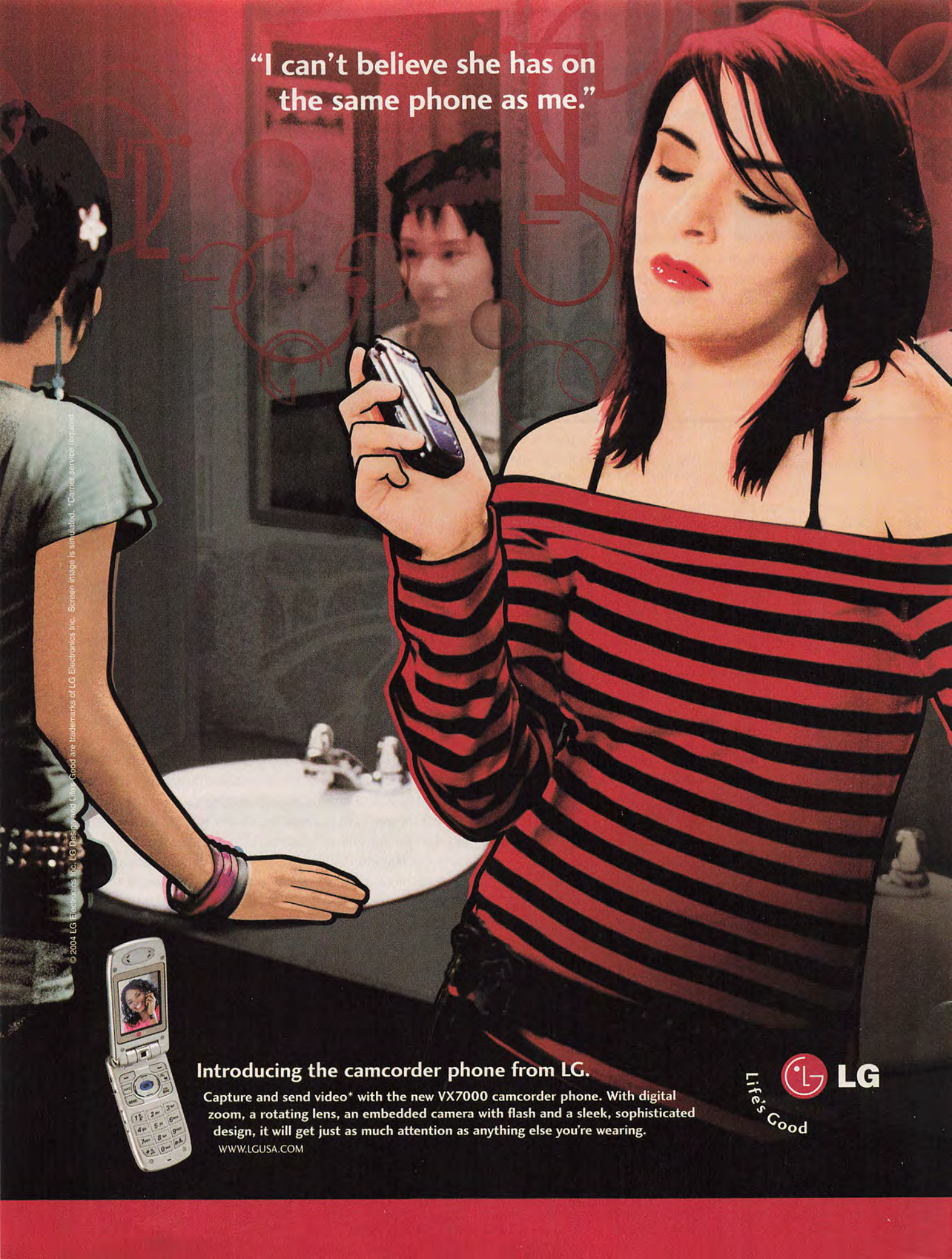
The Trail to Hope Rose *(Hallmark Channel, TV-PG-V)* The trail to Hope Rose goes straight through Lou Diamond Phillips! LDP (above) is a strong yet silent stranger in this cable pic, because, well, he's in a Western, and that's how people in Westerns are supposed to act. He allegedly works 12-hour shifts in a mine, yet always seems to be off doing other stuff during the day, so I'm not exactly sure why he's not fired. Especially when he beats up another miner who is abusing his girlfriend, or when he starts helping a kindly neighbor and sworn enemy (Ernest Borgnine) of the meanie miners. What this movie really needs—and I never thought I'd write these words—is more Lee Majors! The Six Million Dollar Man is actually pretty good as the town marshall, but shows up only intermittently to spew some watch-out-or-you'll-have-to-answer-to-me-type nonsense. Fine, but who answers for this? **C**

SUNDAY JULY 4

6–8PM
What's Love Got to Do With It *(Showtime, TV-R)* I know it's good, and I know Angela Bassett is fantastic, but *where's the damn question mark*?

8–9:30PM*
A Capitol Fourth 2004 *(PBS)* America loves Clay Aiken. And Clay Aiken loves America!!! Watch him get all stars and stripes on your ass when he plays opening act to a bitchin' fireworks show from our nation's capital. **check local listings*

MIDNIGHT–1:30AM
The Passion Network *(Cinemax, TV-MA)* If there's one thing every American should be filled with on the Fourth of July, it's passion.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Tweedy (center) and the band are *born* again

Wiley Wilco

You gotta love them for being America's weirdest, most eclectic roots-rock group. Or do you? by David Browne

WILCO
a ghost is born *(Nonesuch)*

Rarely has a dose of maturity suited musicians the way it has Wilco, especially their leader and auteur Jeff Tweedy. On their earliest records, they aimed to reinvent country rock for the '90s, but the music was continually undercut by a smug, smart-ass cockiness; Tweedy seemed all too aware he was a clever songwriter. By 2002's *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, though, the band was onto something more interesting, murkier, and muted—ambient alt-country—that finally wiped the youthful smirks from their faces.

True to the admirable (and frustrating) ways in which Tweedy fiddles with Wilco's sound on each new album, *a ghost is born* strips away the sonic peach fuzz that encased its cohesive if imperfect predecessor. Looking to break their sound wide open, Wilco (working again with producer Jim O'Rourke, who knows more than a thing or two about avant-garde moves) have made their most audacious and riskiest record to date. One hardly associates the band with interminable, jabbing guitar solos, or with springy electro-pop, or with songs that self-consciously stretch out for upwards of 10 minutes. But that's precisely what we get on the first three tracks: the creepy-crawly "At Least That's What You Said," about a physically abusive relationship; the apparent lure-of-drugs metaphor "Hell Is Chrome"; and "Spiders (Kidsmoke)," which glides from blippy homemade-techno drone to cathartic band rave-up and back again. Maddening on first listen, the songs gradually settle into your brain and make you hear the group in a new light—as brash sonic architects, not merely rehashers of bits of rock past. Based on a recent performance in New York, these numbers are especially enthralling live; rarely have Wilco seemed like such excitable boys.

The rest of *a ghost is born* isn't quite as experimental or always as rewarding, although it has sparkling moments galore. "Handshake Drugs," another song that hints at the pill-popping problems that recently landed Tweedy in rehab, has a pulsating, U2-with-a-hangover groove, and the languid "Company in My Back" has a country-road loveliness. The field-of-flowers strings, bouncing-ball pianos, and rock directness that inhabit some of the other songs suggest an openness and vulner-

Couturier of the Week

P. DIDDY

The rap mogul was named top menswear designer of the year by the Council of Fashion Designers of America for his Sean John collection. The new look for fall: Puffy sleeves.

ability Tweedy rarely exhibits.

But Tweedy, who has claimed the album was born of improvisation, is also hampered by the same on-the-fly approach. For someone whose longtime strength has been songwriting over all-out adventurousness, many of the more traditional tunes seem, ironically, half finished. The Randy Newman-esque piano pop of "Hummingbird," about a man going to great physical lengths to forget a lover, verges on TV-theme-song coyness, and the emo-lite rocker "I'm a Wheel" (another onstage winner) feels like filler on disc. The wind tunnel of feedback that drags the overly frail piano ballad "Less Than You Think" out to 15 minutes is pure indulgence.

This is the annoying side of Wilco that never fails to resurface. It wasn't their fault that buying and supporting *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* became a symbol for sticking it to the Man after it was rejected by one major label (Reprise) before being picked up by a tonier one (Nonesuch). But they sure reveled in their roles as industry martyrs. Annoying, also, is *ghost*'s pretentious lowercase album title and, especially, the way Tweedy, with his Great Plains rasp, actively resists vocal projection, thereby making some of these songs feel smaller than they are. Given that Tweedy was a product of the early alt-rock era, it's no surprise that he still seems caught between wanting to be a cult figure and a pop star, sometimes at the expense of his art. (Tellingly, he ends the album with "The Late Greats," an ode to obscure bands and songs that suggests they are superior to mainstream pop—sometimes the case, but not always.) As the intermittent highs of *a ghost is born* prove, Tweedy can have the whole world in his hand, as long as he wants it. **B**

Mena: The next Alanis?

JoJo: The next Xtina?

MARIA MENA

White Turns Blue *(Columbia)*

JOJO

JoJo *(Blackground/Universal)*

Establishing a signature sound remains a herculean task for even the savviest of pop stars, much less precocious youngsters. So it's no wonder that teen upstarts Maria Mena and JoJo both model themselves in the likeness of old-school female icons of the (gulp) 1990s. Shamelessly derivative? You bet. But the real shocker? Both debuts exhibit remarkable promise.

Mena, an 18-year-old half-Norwegian singer-songwriter, represents the umpteenth coming of Alanis Morissette and possesses, by far, the uncanniest vocal similarities to the Canadian songbird. More impressively, Mena nails the quality most responsible for her elder's initial success: She's got hooks you could hum for days. From the orchestral power-pop of "Just a Little Bit" to the confessional thunder of "Take You With Me," Mena delivers galvanizing melodies, keeping the clunky wordplay Morissette is so fond of to a minimum.

WHO THE @#!* ARE LOS LONELY BOYS?

The Garza brothers may call themselves Los Lonely Boys, but the Mexican-American trio, whose single "Heaven" and self-titled debut album are currently winging their way up the charts, hardly have a moment to themselves, what with their growing coterie of famous fans.

Guitarist Henry, 26, bassist JoJo, 24, and drummer Ringo, 22, keep attracting folks like Carlos Santana, who recently joined them on stage at San Francisco's Fillmore. They were also jazzed that they got to meet wrestler Stone Cold Steve Austin. And then there's staunch supporter Willie Nelson, who handpicked Los Lonely Boys for his star-studded Memorial Day TV special, *Willie Nelson & Friends: Outlaws and Angels*, where they shared the stage with Keith Richards, Kid Rock, and Jerry Lee Lewis.

"Comin' from where we come from—San Angelo, Texas—you always dream about meeting your idols one day," says Henry. "But this! It's like being on a roller coaster. We're just trying to hang on and have a good time."

The Garzas cut their teeth playing cantinas and bars in their dad's conjunto band. JoJo says they knew it was time to go out on their own "when we started throwing Metallica into the sets." With their papa's blessing, the brothers began refining their music into a blend they dub "Texican rock & roll."

Hey there, Lonely Boys: JoJo, Henry, and Ringo

The band is a true family affair. "We're brothers, dude," says Ringo, explaining their seemingly telepathic connection on stage. "When we're riding that tornado together, man, it's like magic." Maybe they should call their music "Tex-Hex." —*Tom Sinclair*

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SMILE BRIGHTER.™

Spotlight on RACHAEL YAMAGATA

Heartbreak Kid

While you're waiting for the new Fiona Apple CD to come out, meet a lovesick chanteuse who doesn't mess with her exes—she writes songs about them. by Nancy Miller

Rachael Yamagata is about to look into her future. She's perched on an unmade bed in her messy Venice Beach, Calif., apartment, shuffling a well-worn deck of tarot cards. "I'm on a tarot binge," she confesses, shoving aside an open suitcase full of dirty clothes to make room for today's reading. "You're not supposed to do this more than once a month, but I've done it four times this week." She closes her eyes, takes a deep breath, and taps the deck. "Ohh-kay," she sighs deeply. "What does the future hold..."

Actually, we're willing to make a few predictions without consulting magic cards. For starters, we see critics falling in love with this 26-year-old singer-songwriter's debut album, *Happenstance*. What's more, we predict that they'll laud Yamagata's husky voice and emotionally raw lyrics, her scratchy-piped single "Worn Me Down" will be blessed with oodles of prerelease buzz, and she will endure countless references to fellow angsty pianist Fiona Apple. Indeed, so powerful are these visions, they have already come true—especially that bit about Apple.

"One part of me is really flattered by the comparison," says Yamagata. "But then there's this other part of me that feels weirdly jealous. It's like being with someone new and they keep comparing you to their ex-girlfriend. You know, that beautiful ex-girlfriend who was, like, a genius and amazing in bed. At a certain point I think, I can't measure up to that. Can we stop talking about her? Maybe we can just keep talking about *me*?"

Since she asked: Yamagata's story begins in Maryland, where she was raised, and moves to Chicago, where she went to Northwestern University and spent five years playing tambourine and singing backup for a local funk band called Bumpus (she started out as a groupie but quickly moved up the ranks). Between Bumpus gigs, she sketched out hundreds of her own tunes onto a tape recorder. "I wanted to sing the stuff I wrote," she says. "I just wanted to stand up at some open mike and be horrible."

Didn't quite turn out that way. In fact, Yamagata's open-mike performances attracted so much attention, she decided to mail off a demo of her darkest, grittiest piano-driven ballads to record executives in Hollywood. Within months she was jetting to L.A. to play a showcase at the Viper Room. By spring of 2003, she had signed with RCA and was touring with Damien Rice, Liz Phair, and Ed Harcourt. She even found herself opening for electro-folkie David Gray at Madison Square Garden, singing in front of thousands of people—two of whom turned out to be her mom and dad (divorced since Yamagata was 2), who had never been to see their daughter perform. "I was like, 'I'm playing Madison Square Garden...can you make it?'" she recalls.

Oh, they could make it—although they may have suffered a few uncomfortable moments listening to their daughter's intensely intimate musical confessionals. "Ninety-nine percent of what inspires me is romantic trauma," she explains. "I've actually been in the middle of breaking up with someone, and while I'm crying—completely destroyed—I've thought, *This is going to make a great song.* I write when I'm sad and sometimes I worry, what if I get happy? For all I know, in five years I'll be writing about my cats."

For now, though, Yamagata is alone in her tiny Venice pad, polishing her solo act and preparing for her first headlining tour (a three-week cross-country whirlwind that begins June 11 in Louisville, Ky.). What happens after that, of course, is anybody's guess. A platinum CD? A spot on *SNL*? A happy relationship? Perhaps there's a hint of things to come in one of those tarot cards Yamagata has just flipped over. "Right on!" she almost shrieks, pointing at what looks like a picture of a big yellow blob. "It's the star card!" ■

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERTO D'ESTE

Apparently, the army of urban producers (Soulshock & Karlin, the Underdogs, Mike City) on *JoJo* know how to build a disc brimming with sizzling hooks too. The prototype this time? Xtina, with her over-the-top melismatic delivery. Too bad, since many of these otherwise engagingly gritty R&B tracks, especially the euphoric "Happy Song," out-sass recent material by grown-up divas like Monica, Tamia, and even Mary J. Blige. Though the 13-year-old's vocal calisthenics quickly grow tiresome, with a few more years under her belt JoJo may yet discover her inner soul singer. *White:* **B+** *JoJo:* **B** *—Raymond Fiore*

Pop/Rock

NICK DRAKE
Made to Love Magic *(Island)*

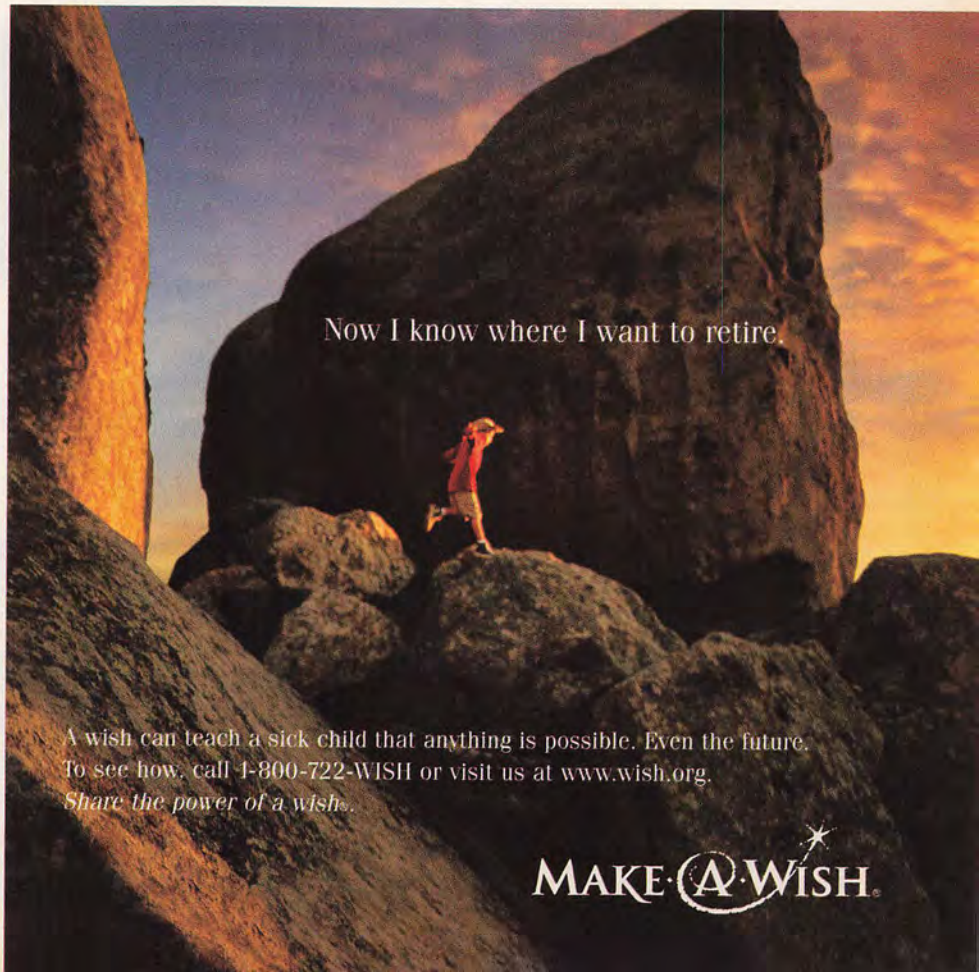
For Drakeophiles, the ground-shaking news here is the unearthed "Tow the Line," a threatening-clouds folk-blues that's of a piece with this cult icon's other final recordings. The iffy news is that about half of the still-available *Time of No Reply* rarities set are also here. The additions—like two songs with newly dubbed-on strings—are a tad suspect. But the ageless, mythopoetic elegance of Drake's craft shines through, even if we truly have heard some of this before. **B+** *—DB*

FRENCH KICKS
The Trial of the Century *(Star Time)*

Previously lumped in with the NYC post-punk explosion, this Brooklyn band has moved on to a style of a later vintage: new-wave pop that doles out melancholy, grandeur, and groove in equal doses. Lead moper Nick Stumpf has Moz's wry romanticism down pat, while the group makes like Joy Division on an espresso binge. A bit retro, for sure, but the Reagan-era references feel more fond than forced. **B** *—Michael Endelman*

CONCRETE BLONDE
Mojave *(Happy Hermit)*

The latest from these mid-'80s L.A. rock icons is a desert-inspired album steeped in dark harmonies. Unfortunately, singer-bassist Johnette Napolitano forgoes flaunting her famed haunting timbre in favor of issuing bristling whispers. But *Mojave*'s audible mysticism,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brazen electricity, and hallucinogenic reverie are, at times, intoxicating. **B** —*Jeanne Fury*

!!!
Louden Up Now *(Touch and Go)*

This seven-person group (pronounced "chick-chick-chick") has a thing for the glory days of Studio 54, proffering chic dance songs that boast funky electro-disco beats and new-wave savoir faire. But while their deliciously vulgar kiss-offs and odes to indifference will shake your tail feather, some of the cuts get lost in a stagnant loop, chilling out a party that's meant to be hot. **B** —*JF*

OZOMATLI
Street Signs *(Concord)*

L.A.-based collective Ozomatli are mash-up maestros: Their Latin-rock-rap-reggae-funk fusion mirrors the ethnic makeup of their hometown. On their third full-length, the nine-piece adds Middle Eastern/Indian accents to the multiculti mix, leading to some insanely overstuffed arrangements. Still, there's no denying the sheer energy of this idealist crew. If the U.N. needs a house band, Ozo's the act to call. **B** —*ME*

SIMPLE KID
1 *(Vector)*

In a soft, diffident tone, Ireland's Simple Kid (singer-songwriter Ciaran McFeely) murmurs intentionally banal observations like "love's an enigma." Meanwhile, he deploys raw riffs and beats that are alternately jittery and shuffling. His conceptual triumph is "The Average Man," an unironic ode to ordinariness sung to strummed guitar with the vehemence of a young Ray Davies. But neither as Kinks-y nor as simple as his music asserts, McFeely is a shrewd charmer, often hardheaded and occasionally hard-hearted. **A–** —*Ken Tucker*

Simple Kid: wearing every hat he owns

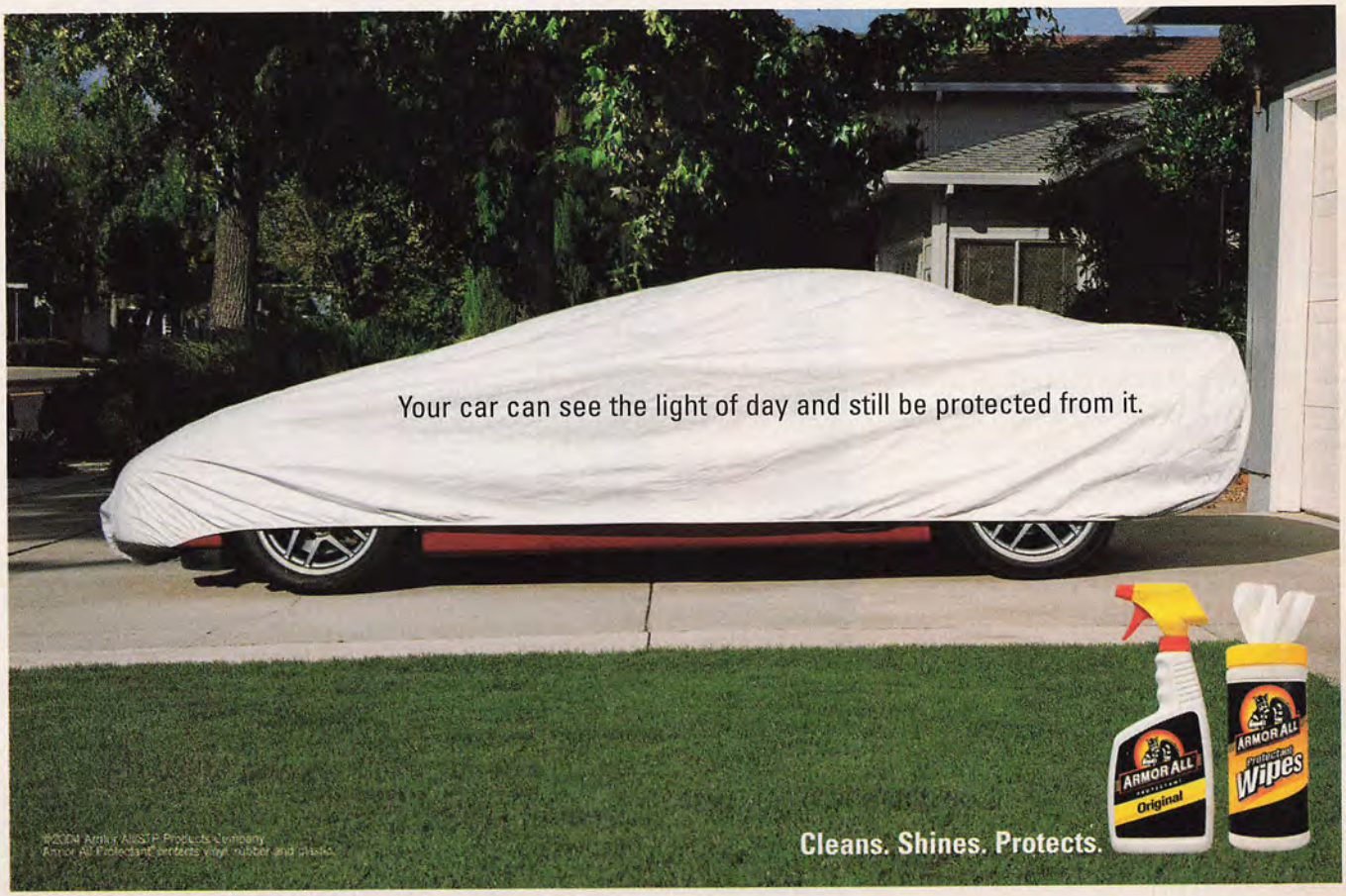
KARRIN ALLYSON
Wild for You *(Concord)*

Allyson sings a baby-boomer soundtrack—Joni, Carly, Carole, and more—with mixed results. Her smoldering "(Goin') Wild for You Baby" rivals Bonnie Raitt's version, and a reggae-fied take on Mitchell's "All I Want" works. But the gentle swing of "Wild World" muzzles Cat Stevens' bite, and she can't touch Elton's melodrama on "Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word." Still, her voice is sweet, reedy, resilient—and winning, in the end. **B** —*Larry Blumenfeld*

Rap/R&B

ERICK SERMON
Chilltown, New York
(Def Squad/Universal)

Erick Sermon's a vet. After 15 years as a producer-rapper—solo and as half of seminal duo EPMD—E-Dub has mastered his patient, lisp-laden flow and a unique electro-funk sound to match. Sadly,



on his fifth solo album, his preoccupation with age and past-due credit—"A&R's sayin' they won't sign me/'Cause they see my face and think I'm done"—deadens even his thickest bass lines and most buoyant beats. Never let the chip on your shoulder outweigh the bump in your trunk. **B** —*Neil Drumming*

Latin

MARC ANTHONY
Amar Sin Mentiras
(Sony Discos)

Providing more evidence that Anthony's supple voice uplifts even the most saccharine material, *Mentiras*, the Nuyorican crooner's first Spanish-language pop album, effectively squashes any urge to hear him belt like a gringo ever again. From the dark orchestral swells of "Ahora Quien" to the organic bolero shuffle of "Tu Amor Me Hace Bien," Anthony's unbridled conviction imbues the songs with a winsome flair for the melodramatic. Points subtracted, though, for the drippy J. Lo duet "Escapémonos." **B** —*RF*

Soundtracks

VARIOUS ARTISTS
Spider-Man 2 *(Columbia)*

Columbia must have realized that Spider-Man was never as macho as Chad Kroeger's "Hero," the chest-pounding anthem for the first Spidey installment. This time around, Dashboard Confessional's yearning single "Vindicated" leads a solid batch of previously unreleased tracks from today's hottest emo acts. Choice cut for Peter Parker wannabes: Yellowcard's knotty "Gifts and Curses." **B+** —*Sean Richardson*

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▶ Indie film folk are just so DIY. Not only does actor **GUY PEARCE** (*Memento*, *L.A. Confidential*) star in Lions Gate's dark romance *A Slipping Down Life* but he also sings the soundtrack. ITUNES.COM

▶ If you've ever experienced rapper **JEAN GRAE**'s slick, heart-wrenching confessionals and wondered why you don't get to hear her more often, let her tell it on "Don't Rush Me." BABYGRANDE.COM/EXCLUSIVE.JSP

▶ There *is* no joy in **MUDVILLE**, who follow faithfully in the gloomy footsteps of trip-hop pioneers Portishead. But Marilyn Carino's quirky wail on "Hero of the World" is plenty spirited nonetheless. MUDVILLEMUSIC.COM

▶ An acoustic revamp of Ludacris' "What's Your Fantasy?" by Dismemberment Plan's **TRAVIS MORRISON** is as frenetic as the original. Still, we doubt it'll get as much play in the strip clubs. TRAVISMORRISON.COM

The Chart

THOSE DION NIGHTS

The Canadian belter continued to dominate the concert circuit with yet another huge week on her custom-built stage in Sin City, pulling in $2,617,132 over a five-night stand. But don't count out the Purple One, and the power of nostalgia, as Prince's hits-packed tour managed to reap some pretty astonishing digits: nearly $6 million in just five dates. Further down, Shania Twain's popularity is still *Up!*, as she grabs five spots on the top 15. Need a sign that the summer concert season has truly arrived? Jimmy Buffett takes No. 8.

CONCERTS

	NO. OF SHOWS		TOTAL GROSS
1	5	**CELINE DION** Las Vegas	$2,617,132
2	2	**PRINCE** Los Angeles	$2,527,148
3	2	**PRINCE** Las Vegas	$2,432,651
4	1	**THE WHO, DAVID JOHANSEN** New York City	$1,807,136
5	1	**Z100 ZOOTOPIA: JESSICA SIMPSON...** New York City	$1,791,039
6	1	**WANGO TANGO: JANET JACKSON...** Pasadena	$1,575,198
7	1	**SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE** St. Paul	$1,199,355
8	1	**JIMMY BUFFETT** Sunrise, Fla.	$1,159,533
9	1	**KISS 108 CONCERT: AVRIL LAVIGNE...** Mansfield, Mass.	$1,075,135
10	1	**PRINCE** Anaheim, Calif.	$968,729
11	1	**SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE** Columbus, Ohio	$875,410
12	1	**SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE** Fargo, N.D.	$861,575
13	1	**FLEETWOOD MAC** Mansfield, Mass.	$829,351
14	1	**SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE** Grand Rapids, Mich.	$822,580
15	1	**SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE** Fort Wayne, Ind.	$810,050

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WHAT'S THAT SONG...

...in the trailer for Tom Hanks' airport movie *The Terminal*? A cover of John Denver's "Leaving on a Jet Plane," by Canada's **CHANTAL KREVIAZUK**.

...bringing some energetic hip-hop style to Adrien Brody's Diet Coke clip? "Callin' Out," from Californian MC **LYRICS BORN**'s 2003 CD *Later That Day...*

...playing as Heineken touts its MP3 giveaways in a TV ad? A remix of Fischerspooner's "Emerge," by German DJ **NAUGHTY**, from the *Freq. Beats* comp.

ON TOUR

You can't escape it: **AMERICAN IDOL LIVE** is coming to your town! Among the stops Fantasia and the top nine runners-up will make are Portland, Ore. (July 16), Nashville (Aug. 14), and Honolulu (Sept. 28–29).

Electro-funkster **FELIX DA HOUSECAT** will be DJ'ing from Las Vegas (June 26) and Milwaukee (July 1) to hometown Chicago (July 23).

JOHN MAYER is on a gig-a-day schedule this summer. Dates include Morrison, Colo. (July 6), Phoenix (July 20), and Atlanta (Aug. 29).

WANT MORE MUSIC? If you're a subscriber, check out Listen2This, our free monthly music supplement. Recent issues of L2T have featured stories on the Strokes and the Cure, and CD recommendations from Moby. **PLUS:** reviews of the best in new music, videogames, gadgets, and comics. To sign up, visit ew.com/register2listen.

FIND OUT WHAT THE HOTTEST STARS WILL BE DOING THIS SUMMER

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THE MUST TV SHOWS

THE MUST GADGETS

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Author Erdrich

Plains Speaking

Louise Erdrich continues the saga of a revenge-seeking Ojibwe heroine in *Four Souls*. by Jennifer Reese

Novel *(HarperCollins, $23.95)*

Over 20 years and nine novels—most of them lovely, a few transcendent, all marred by lyrical excesses—Louise Erdrich has staked out her own Yoknapatawpha County on the Great Plains. Teeming with feuds, tragedies, and love stories that overlap, interlock, and span generations, hers is a rollicking self-contained world of drunks, priests, tramps, thugs, and small-town tradesmen, but above all, Plains Indians trying to cope with white encroachment. Characters pop up from novel to novel, sometimes as narrators, later as bit players, and each new book offers a fresh perspective on the whole.

In 1988's *Tracks*, Erdrich launched the epic of Fleur Pillager, a majestic young Ojibwe woman who attracted the wrong men, bore a child, and ultimately lost her cherished scrap of land. Her newest novel, *Four Souls*, begins where *Tracks* left off in the 1920s, as Fleur sets out for Minneapolis in search of John James Mauser, the man she believes stole that land. Like a creature out of myth, she hacks her way through the brush, bathing in ditches, sleeping under carts, and boiling and devouring stray dogs in the single-minded pursuit of her quarry.

Fleur tracks Mauser to the mansion where he lives with his frigid wife, Placide (a vapid, simpering stereotype), and her smart, homely spinster sister, Polly. Mauser has recently been diagnosed with an illness related to "a damming of the sperm," but Fleur, who installs herself as a laundress in the house, soon takes care of that problem, using swamp tea, rough massages, and her innate sexual magnetism.

Erdrich, like Toni Morrison, tends to locate a higher wisdom in women living outside of conventional society. Gorgeous, earthy, and inscrutable, Fleur is one such romanticized figure, shrouded in a mystique that brings forth some of Erdrich's most egregiously florid prose. "Her face was sculpted of the fabulous dark side of a mirror. Or deep water. Or time..." How could any man resist? Mauser can't. He divorces Placide and marries Fleur, who duly exacts her revenge—although not exactly in the way she had planned, and at a much higher price.

Fleur fascinates or obsesses everyone in the book, and clearly the author is besotted by her creation as well. But in fact, Fleur—a chilly, vengeful goddess—is far less interesting than Erdrich's unglamorous, smaller-scale characters Nanapush and Margaret, whose story is loosely braided with Fleur's. Nanapush, the ancient, good-hearted, dirty-minded Ojibwe jokester, has been living in bickering married bliss with the formidable grey-haired Margaret. Their feud—kicked off by Margaret's fixation on acquiring linoleum for their cabin—brings some sparkle to an otherwise ponderously symbolic work, and their battle escalates into a funny, absurdist subplot of great originality and charm. While *Four Souls* has none of the strength and sweep of last year's *Master Butchers Singing Club*, it is a welcome, if modest, new piece in the ever-expanding Erdrich saga. **B**

Signer of the Times

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Baby, he was born to—sign books? On June 26, the Boss will autograph *Bruce Springsteen: Songs* (HarperEntertainment, $24.95) in Asbury Park, N.J., for 200 hungry-hearted contest winners.

THE CIRCUS IN WINTER

Cathy Day
Stories *(Harcourt, $23)*

Is there a more seductive and ghostly phrase than "circus in winter"? Day, who grew up in Peru, Ind.—once the off-season home of many American circus companies—sets her elegantly juggled debut collection of interconnected stories in the fictional heartland town of Lima, Ind. And from stories she spins about the tatty magic of elephants and dwarfs, roustabouts and clowns, dreamers and hustlers living together as devoted and combustible as kin, she conjures a bigger picture of family—and of America. Under Day's bright tent of storytelling, the proprietor who gets the Great Porter Circus & Menagerie rolling in the dusk of the 19th century is a somersault away from the great-granddaughter of an elephant handler who makes a trip to her ancestral home at the dawn of the 21st. **A–** *—Lisa Schwarzbaum*

DEAD LINES

Greg Bear
Horror *(Ballantine, $24.95)*

The thing about horror stories, or any kind of thriller for that matter, is that they make us wait. And we're cool with that. We know (or hope) that all the disparate plot strands—in this case, an ex-pornographer who lost a daughter, a mysteriously efficient new mobile communications service, and an eerie old-Hollywood estate—will eventually knot together in some revelatory way, and so we commit ourselves to the carrot-donkey dynamic and plod along for the ride. But aside from some nice character embroidery, and one truly harrowing tucking-in-the-kid scene, *Dead Lines* leaves you feeling a bit like a jackass. After all, if you knew that what you theorized was going on by page 100 was *actually what was going on*, you'd have never kept reading. **C+** *—Marc Bernardin*

THE ITALIAN BOY

Sarah Wise
Nonfiction *(Metropolitan, $26)*

Half true-crime potboiler and half social history, Wise's first book uses a grizzly 1831 murder to explore the world of London's "resurrection men," criminals who lined their pockets by digging up fresh corpses and selling them to medical schools. Some, including John Bishop and Thomas Williams, skipped the excavation stage and sold the bodies of folks they killed themselves. The arrest of Bishop and Williams for the murder of a nameless Italian beggar created a media frenzy—and, according to Wise, influenced the work of Charles Dickens (who may have covered the case as a cub reporter). Despite a dry account of the lurid trial, Wise paints a rich portrait of a society experiencing seismic changes in law enforcement, medical education, and social welfare. **B** *—Andrew Johnston*

THE GHOST WRITER

John Harwood
Suspense *(Harcourt, $25)*

With his intricate and engrossing first novel, Harwood raises the ghost of the Victorian ghost story, goosing the action with a modern spin. Gerard Freeman, growing up in Australia with his secretive British-born mother, stumbles across a puzzling photograph and later an eerie short story written by his great-grandmother. Given Mom's violent response to his first discovery—"Tufts of hair stuck out from her head; the whites of her eyes seemed to be spilling out of their sockets"—Gerard senses that herein lies a clue to her mysterious past. Meanwhile, he acquires a seductive British pen pal named Alice who, over the years, is strangely unavailable whenever Gerard visits England. Add to that a creaky old house, a long-ago love triangle, and some antique radiation instruments, and you've got one ghoulishly absorbing read. **B+** *—JR*

A GOOD YEAR

Peter Mayle
Novel *(Knopf, $24)*

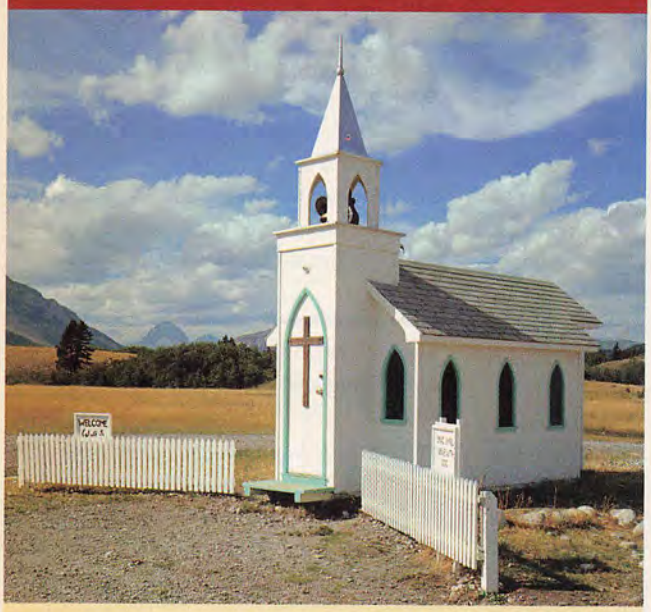
The author of *A Year in Provence* has satiated readers for years with enticing passages on French

BOOK CRITIC FACE-OFF: POTSHOTS AND PANS

The Irresponsible Self James Wood *(FSG, $24)* The veteran book critic, whose author photo looks pensive, is as adept at explicating Erasmus as bitch-slapping Salman Rushdie. **Sample Opening Line** "*Fury* [Rushdie's 2001 novel] exhausts negative superlatives." **Typical Metaphor** Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*, among other books, "is a perpetual-motion machine that appears to have been embarrassed into velocity." **On Don DeLillo's 'Underworld'** "[The] mode of narration seems to be almost incompatible with tragedy or anguish." **On the Modern Epic** Tom Wolfe's *A Man in Full* "veer[s] between the typologically drab and the monstrously melodramatic." Wood further suggests that Wolfe reread Shakespeare. **Just How Cutting?** ✂✂✂

Hatchet Jobs Dale Peck *(The New Press, $23.95)* Two years ago, bad boy Peck, who actually poses with an ax on the cover, wrote a 5,700-word pan of Rick Moody's memoir *The Black Veil* that's still ruffling some literary feathers. **Sample Opening Line** "Rick Moody is the worst writer of his generation." **Typical Metaphor** Philip Roth's *American Pastoral* "is like watery oatmeal." **On Don DeLillo's Novels** "Stupid—just plain stupid." **On the Modern Epic** David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest* "is one of the very few novels for which the phrase 'not worth the paper it's printed on' has real meaning in at least an ecological sense." Peck further suggests that Wallace be sodomized. **Just How Cutting?** ✂✂✂✂ *—Troy Patterson*

CHAPEL OF MY EYE



Photographer Stephen Shore roamed North America from 1973 to 1979, turning landscapes, main streets, and churches—including this one in Alberta, Canada—into a classic book of images, newly updated, called **Uncommon Places: The Complete Works** *(Aperture, $50).*

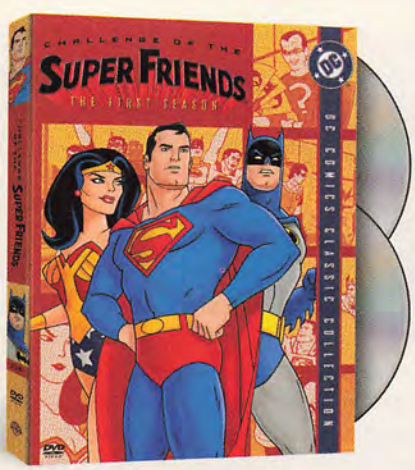
joie de vivre. His latest novel is, *quelle surprise*, more of the same. Londoner Max Skinner—affluent, single, handsome—loses his cutthroat banking job and discovers he's inherited a vineyard in the south of France...on the very same day. One doesn't have to guess where Max, or the halfhearted plot (involving a shady sommelier and a bevy of beauties), ends up. It's also no shock that Ridley Scott is already working on a film adaptation—the picturesque locales, attractive faces, and utter predictability (the dull title says it all) seem better suited for the big screen. **C+** *—Allyssa Lee*

WILCO
Learning How to Die
Greg Kot
Nonfiction *(Broadway, $14)*

Mining the same contentious plotlines captured in 2002's

compelling documentary *I Am Trying to Break Your Heart*, rock critic Kot wisely centers his history of the experimental indie band on its most substantive and convulsive character: talented, temperamental frontman Jeff Tweedy. He traces Tweedy from his days pioneering alt-country with Uncle Tupelo to the 2002 flap over Wilco's critically acclaimed *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (dropped by Warner Bros.' Reprise, later a hit for sister label Nonesuch). Though the book could benefit from a bit more prodding of Tweedy's interpersonal dysfunction and intimate relationships (his wife is a minor presence), he emerges as a likable antihero—a "quintessential 'difficult' artist" who uncompromisingly follows his muse, band members and record labels be damned. **B+** *—Raymond Fiore*

THE FIRST SEASON FOR THE FIRST TIME ON DVD



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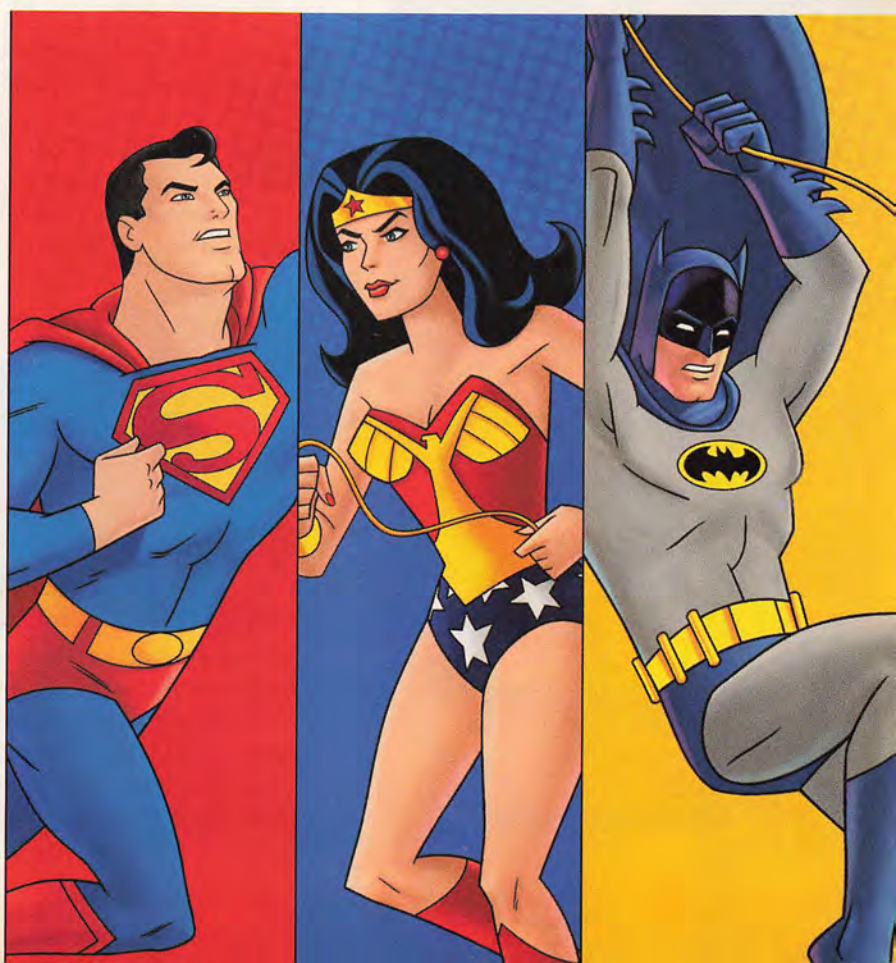

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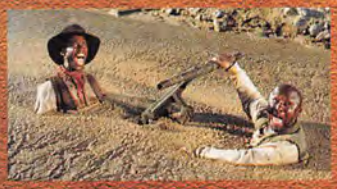
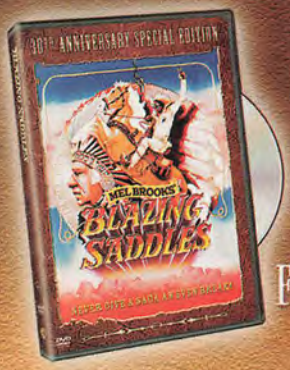
THE PASSION

THE AGONY

THE BEANS



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MONGO
Adventures in Trash
Ted Botha
Nonfiction *(Bloomsbury, $23.95)*

Ted Botha is a journalist. He's also a mongo collector—an odd breed who scavenge off the street. *Mongo* examines Botha's comrades, a patchy group of tribes living off the grid in New York City. Each chapter looks at a different subspecies, from "canners" who rely on bottle returns to "anarchists" who dumpster-dive for food; from amateur archaeologists who excavate 19th-century outhouses to dealers who sift through discarded books for first editions. In essence, Botha (who has freelanced at EW as a copy editor) is exploring fascinating questions of value. What is trash? How much of our history—be it personal, political, or social—do we put on the curb in black plastic bags? It's delightfully weird, and thought-provoking enough to make you consider panning through garbage for gold. **A–** *—Daniel Fierman*

THE PRESERVATIONIST
David Maine
Debut Novel *(St. Martin's, $21.95)*

Here's a question they never addressed in Sunday school: What was it really like on Noah's ark? Maine offers one set of answers in his salty debut novel: It was boring, miserable, and cramped. The biblical patriarch, whom Maine calls Noe, was a priapic old tyrant with a direct line to God and a weary, angry wife ("Does he even know my name? Don't bet on it"). His sons were impatient, rebellious, and horny: "If it's going to flood, then flood already," says Japheth. "If not, well, I've got business to take care of, things to do, a wife to rut." It's not a profound novel, nor a memorable one, but Maine has spun a fun, irreverent tale from one of the oldest stories in the world. **B+** *—JR*

TEN BIG ONES
Janet Evanovich
Mystery *(St. Martin's, $25.95)*

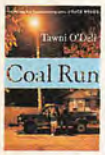
If you haven't had the pleasure of reading a Stephanie Plum mystery, this is not the place to start. While all the players that have earned Evanovich's series a legion of fans dutifully hit their marks—from wisecracking, bumbling Trenton bond enforcement agent Plum to opinionated Grandma Mazur to hunka-hunka Italian cop Joe Morelli—the novel seems a little rote. The 10th Plum mystery in as many years, *Ten Big Ones* clearly suffers from book-a-year syndrome. This time, Plum inadvertently witnesses a convenience-store robbery perpetrated by a murderous gang member wearing a devil mask and becomes a target when she helps track him down. The cantankerous nature of America's nuttiest bounty hunter still beguiles, but the plot is thin and what's supposed to pass for funny, doesn't. **C–** *—Karen Karbo*

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS At the start of Stephen King's *The Dark Tower VI: Song of Susannah (Donald M. Grant, $30)*, there's no synopsis to remind you of the backstory. "By the time you get to Six," says EW's back-page columnist, referring to the second-to-last entry of his epic, "it's just f---ing ridiculous to try and sum up what's gone before." In other words, start with Book One if you're a newbie. But for fans, "Stephen King" not only pops up as a character in this one—he also stars in a helluva cliffhanger, which King promises will be explained in the final *Dark Tower* book, due in September. In the meantime, he'll be cowriting a nonfiction book with novelist Stewart O'Nan about the 2004 Boston Red Sox. And he's also started a new novel: "I don't know how well it's going, but the nice thing about it is, having announced my retirement, I don't feel like I'm under any pressure." *—Gregory Kirschling*

COAL RUN

Tawni O'Dell

Novel *(Viking, $24.95)*

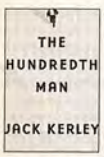


At first glance, O'Dell's characters seem plucked from central casting: Ivan, the football star who breaks a leg, loses his pro football contract, and slips into a life of boozing and drifting; Jolene, his waitress sister with three kids by three different men; Val, the embittered Vietnam vet. But O'Dell masterfully guides them through life in a downtrodden Pennsylvania coal-mining town. As Ivan, now a sheriff's deputy, waits for an old high school teammate to be released from prison, he confronts the secret that's long been tugging at his conscience. O'Dell has come a long way since her first novel, *Back Roads*, an Oprah pick; this is rich, compassionate storytelling. **A–** *—Tina Jordan*

THE HUNDREDTH MAN

Jack Kerley

Thriller *(Dutton, $23.95)*



A serial killer in Mobile, Ala., enjoys beheading his victims and scrawling cryptic words onto their lifeless bodies. It's a job for maverick detective Carson Ryder, who butts heads with police bureaucrats ("If the chief was beside me while I choked on a gumball he'd...call a deputy chief...") and grapples with his own demons. But Kerley's remarkably gruesome first thriller isn't very thrilling and gets weaker when focused on Ryder's romance with a boozy pathologist. Ryder believes it takes a psycho to catch a psycho and relies heavily on a mental patient named Jeremy, whose incoherent rants are more pathetic than menacing. **C** *—David Koeppel*

LOST IN MY OWN BACKYARD

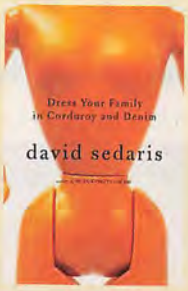
A Walk in Yellowstone National Park

Tim Cahill

Nonfiction *(Crown Journeys, $16)*

As the author of *Pecked to Death by Ducks*, Cahill sure knows how to accentuate local color. Despite the relatively tame title, his latest batch of travel/nature essays is no different. The backyard in question is Yellowstone National Park, and Cahill takes us down a lot of less-beaten paths that embrace the enormity of North America's "Serengeti Plain." With his typically offhand wit, he assesses the danger of indigenous bison, which "may seem indolent, even lazy. But then they abruptly decide you need to be gored." Almost as casually, he mentions that Yellowstone sits atop a boiling cauldron of volcanic activity that, by some calculations, could blow any day now and pretty much end the world. Scary as he makes the place seem, you'll want to get there. Like, yesterday. **B+** *—Michael Sauter*

Best-Sellers



'DRESS' UP

David Sedaris is officially a superstar. The *Me Talk Pretty One Day* author's latest collection of knee-slapping, tear-duct-tugging essays, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, makes a big debut at No. 1 on the nonfiction list. And satirist Tony Hendra's religious-tinged memoir, *Father Joe*, bows at No. 10.

FICTION

		WEEKS ON LIST
1	**THE DA VINCI CODE** Dan Brown, *Doubleday, $24.95*	63
2	**THE RULE OF FOUR** Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason, *Dial, $24*	4
3	**THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN** Mitch Albom, *Hyperion, $19.95*	36
4	**THE TAKING** Dean Koontz, *Bantam, $27*	2
5	**ANGELS & DEMONS** Dan Brown, *Atria, $19.95*	23
6	**BERGDORF BLONDES** Plum Sykes, *Miramax, $23.95*	9
7	**HIDDEN PREY** John Sandford, *Putnam, $26.95*	4
8	**THE NARROWS** Michael Connelly, *Little, Brown, $25.95*	5
9	**A GOOD YEAR** Peter Mayle, *Knopf, $24*	1
10	**THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB** Karen Joy Fowler, *Putnam, $23.95*	2

NONFICTION

		WEEKS ON LIST
1	**DRESS YOUR FAMILY IN CORDUROY AND DENIM** David Sedaris, *Little, Brown, $24.95*	1
2	**THE SOUTH BEACH DIET** Arthur Agatston, M.D., *Rodale, $24.95*	60
3	**THE ULTIMATE WEIGHT SOLUTION COOKBOOK: RECIPES FOR WEIGHT LOSS FREEDOM** Dr. Phil McGraw, *Free Press, $26*	2
4	**EATS, SHOOTS & LEAVES** Lynne Truss, *Gotham, $17.50*	8
5	**BIG RUSS & ME—FATHER AND SON: LESSONS OF LIFE** Tim Russert, *Miramax, $22.95*	4
6	**THE PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE** Rick Warren, *Zondervan, $19.99*	70
7	**THE SOUTH BEACH DIET COOKBOOK** Arthur Agatston, M.D., *Rodale, $25.95*	8
8	**PLAN OF ATTACK** Bob Woodward, *Simon & Schuster, $28*	7
9	**THE ULTIMATE WEIGHT SOLUTION: THE 7 KEYS TO WEIGHT LOSS FREEDOM** Dr. Phil McGraw, *Free Press, $26*	33
10	**FATHER JOE: THE MAN WHO SAVED MY SOUL** Tony Hendra, *Random House, $24.95*	1

SOURCE: *PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*, WEEK OF MAY 31–JUNE 6, 2004

NEW IN PAPERBACK

THE TRUTH ABOUT CELIA Kevin Brockmeier *(Vintage, $12)* A 7-year-old girl goes missing, and her writer father composes short, heartbreaking chapters imagining alternate lives for her. Brockmeier's a great talent.

UNDER THE BANNER OF HEAVEN Jon Krakauer *(Anchor, $14.95)* The author of *Into the Wild* and *Into Thin Air* changes pace with an absorbing account of a grisly murder committed by two religious fanatics.

THE DOGS OF BABEL Carolyn Parkhurst *(Back Bay, $13.95)* After his wife dies in an accident, Paul tries to teach the only witness—their dog—to talk.

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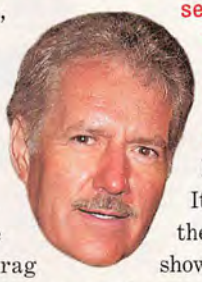
Stupid Questions

this week with... Andy Richter

Andy Richter is having a baby. Five of them, to be exact. The former Conan O'Brien sidekick—who also anchored the hilarious cult comedy *Andy Richter Controls the Universe*—returns to the tube as the star of a new Fox family sitcom, *Quintuplets*, where he'll play dad to a passel of unruly offspring. To mark the occasion, we showered him with Stupid Questions. —*Dan Snierson*

In last week's issue, EW gave *Quintuplets* a D-. But did you ever notice—and I'm not saying this just to cheer you up—if you turn a D- sideways, it looks like a little igloo with a smokestack? Yeah, it does, doesn't it? Or, if you turn it the other way, it looks like a smiling mouth with a goatee.



Feel better now? Oh, what do I care what the nitwits at your dirty rag have to say about us? Tell 'em to go suck on *Amélie* if they want something classy.

You recently appeared in the film *New York Minute* with the Olsen twins, playing a henchman raised by a Chinese crime family. You have less than 60 seconds in which to defend yourself. Go. Umm...I've got a kid. He keeps eating. Done.

Two years ago, Fox had a show in development called *Septuplets*, which centered on seven siblings living in their parents' hotel. Will *Quintuplets* try to make up for this two-child deficiency, or simply settle for being only five sevenths as entertaining? Wow. This is all news to me. As far as I knew, after working with Mary-Kate and Ashley, I had cornered the multiple-birth market. And if I'd known about this previous thing, I would never have signed on for this, because sloppy seconds aren't my thing. But to answer your question, five's just a funnier number than seven.

You kicked some famous ass on *Celebrity Jeopardy!* several years ago. Tell me, is it truly an honor to be the smartest celeb in the room? It's a small honor. It's sort of like being the least retarded show pony. But you know, I beat Brian Dennehy. Not many people get to beat him in anything.

When you won, did Alex Trebek let you touch the 'stache? Hmmm, *let* me? His mouth said no but his eyes said yes.

Andy Richter Controls the Universe was critically admired but, sadly, lasted only 14 episodes. Looking back on it today, what did Andy Richter really control? Four different time slots for two weeks at a time.

You sat on Conan's couch for seven years. Ever find anything cool buried under the cushions? [*Sighs warmly*] Only memories. And a piece of Joan Rivers' ear.

Of all the weird, degrading things you did while you were on *Late Night*, which would you most like to hermetically seal in a shame capsule and launch into outer space? Once you've spent half the day in a flesh-colored G-string in a room full of stagehands, the shame center of your brain just dies. ■

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S POP CULTURE QUIZ (EW #770)

1. *Joe Versus the Volcano*, *Sleepless in Seattle*, and *You've Got Mail*; 2. He won back-to-back Best Actor Oscars; 3. *Radio Flyer*; 4. 1-B, 2-D, 3-A, 4-C; 5. *Volunteers*; 6. Hanks: Kip/Buffy, Scolari: Henry/Hildegarde; 7. Play-Tone; 8. *Splash*; 9. *Family Ties*; 10. *The Devil's Candy*

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